

1776

THE BRITISH EVACUATED  
BOSTON on the 17<sup>th</sup> of March  
over 1000 Americans who were  
loyal to the King going with  
them

1714-1776

David Brown

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PARAGRAPH HISTORY  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES



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A  
PARAGRAPH HISTORY  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES

FROM  
THE DISCOVERY OF THE CONTINENT TO  
THE PRESENT TIME.

*WITH BRIEF NOTES ON CONTEMPORANEOUS  
EVENTS.*

CHRONOLOGICALLY ARRANGED.

By EDWARD ABBOTT.

BOSTON:  
ROBERTS BROTHERS.

1875.

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## A PREFATORY NOTE.

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THIS little book is intended for the use of those Americans who, at this centennial period, wish to refresh their memories as to some main facts in their country's history, and have only a few moments to do it in. The essential service of larger and fuller works, it does not pretend to render. Nor does it profess to name every event, or to mention every date, which belongs to the national growth ; but only a few that are chief. It simply presents a skeleton of American history, with perhaps some bones missing at that ; all the flesh for which must be found by other reading.

The brief notes in contemporaneous history which lie along the margin of the text will, it is hoped, be serviceable to the reader in furnishing something of a background. It will be noticed that the names of eminent persons are accompanied by two dates. The first is that of their birth ; the second that of their death ; and the insertion into the text is made at the point corre-

sponding with the latter, because it is the later portion of the lives of such which commonly touches most closely the period to which they belong.

The author has not thought it needful to encumber with authorities the pages of a manual whose main merit, if any, must be its compactness. The reader must take his word for it that its statements have been drawn from trustworthy sources, and that all pains have been taken to make them accurate. That they will be found absolutely accurate, in every case, is of course more than is to be expected. But if these chronological paragraphs in the history of our country should have the effect of leading the reader on to a thorough study of the events to which they relate, under the guidance of more competent teachers, the aim of the book will have been accomplished.

E. A.

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.,

April 10, 1875.

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## I.

### ABORIGINAL PERIOD.

**The North American Indians.** The American continent, long before its discovery by the Europeans, was inhabited by the race of red-men known as Indians, who, organized into various families and tribes, bearing various names, and displaying somewhat different characteristics and habits, extended from what is now known as Labrador, in the extreme North-east, southward to the Gulf of Mexico, all about the Great Lakes, far into the interior, and along the Pacific coast; throughout, in fact, pretty much the entire country. The chief families of these Indians were the Esquimaux, the Algonquins, the Iroquois, the Creeks, and the Dakotas; each of these families being divided into an almost infinite number of tribes, of which some of the more prominent and familiar names are Ottawas, Naragansetts, Mohegans, Powhatans, Hurons, Mohawks, and Seminoles. The origin of the North American Indians is wrapped in mystery, though their traditions point to the North-west as the quarter whence the current of their emigration proceeded; which fact, with other circumstances, suggests an Asiatic origin.

**The Mound Builders.** The Indians were not, however the aboriginal inhabitants of North America. There is evidence that they were preceded by another and superior race, which, for want of a better name, and with reference to the monuments left by it, is commonly called the Mound

Builders. The region of the Great Lakes, the valley of the Mississippi, and the vicinity of the Gulf of Mexico, abound with a variety of earth-works, of great age and impressive appearance, all ascribed to this race now long extinct. These works consist of walls, enclosures, embankments, mounds of every conceivable shape, ditches, reservoirs, and altar-like erections in geometrical forms; their antiquity being thought to range from 1500 to 2000 years. Besides such of these works as were intended for purposes of worship, there are others which were places of burial, and others still whose original design was as manifestly defence. Some of the more remarkable of these works are found in Ohio, near Newark and Chilicothe; others in Wisconsin and Iowa. They demonstrate the existence in this country, before the Indian occupation, of a numerous, intelligent, powerful, and to some extent civilized race; but whence it came and whither it disappeared, are, for the present at least, matters of pure conjecture.

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## II.

### PERIOD OF DISCOVERY.

860-1534.

**860. The Norwegians and Iceland.** Columbus was not the pioneer in the enterprise of American discovery. About this year Iceland, which, though politically a part of the Eastern hemisphere, belongs geographically to the Western, was discovered by the Norwegians. According to tradition Iceland had been discovered

862. *Russian  
empire founded  
by Ruric the  
Norman.*

even before this by Irish adventurers. It was not permanently settled, however, until 874, when two Norwegians founded Reykjavik. Half a century later Iceland became a Republic.

**983. Greenland** was the first portion of what is really the American continent to be reached by Europeans. Its eastern coast was seen by the Norwegians almost simultaneously with the discovery of Iceland, but in this and following years the land was entered and explored by Norwegians, and within two centuries became the abode of a considerable population. The probabilities are that Greenland was far less desolate and much more habitable then than now.

871-900. *Alfred the Great, King of England.*

1066. *Battle of Hastings. William the Conqueror, of Normandy, ascends the English throne.*

#### **1000-1200. The Northmen and New England.**

There are traditions to the effect that during the 11th, 12th, and 13th centuries the Northmen explored the New England coast. But the extent of their discoveries, and the precise localities which they visited, cannot be determined with any certainty.

1079-1142. *Abe-  
lard.*

1096-1272. *The  
Crusades.*

1160-1227. *Gen-  
ghis Khan.*

1297-1299. *Scot-  
land in arms  
against England,  
led by Wallace  
and Bruce.*

1307. *Founding  
of the Swiss Can-  
tons.*

1265-1321. *Dante.*

1324-1384. *Wickliffe.*

1328-1400. *Chaucer.*

1410-1431. *Joan  
of Arc.*

**1492. First Voyage of Columbus.** On the 3d of August, Christopher Columbus, a native of Genoa, an educated mariner and an experienced navigator, convinced of the existence of a western hemisphere, and duly empowered by their Majesties, Ferdinand and Isabella, King and Queen of Spain, set sail from Palos on a voyage of discovery, being of unknown age, but probably between fifty

1370-1441. *John Van Eyck, to whom is attributed the invention of oil-painting.* and sixty. The expedition consisted of 120 men, all told, divided between three ships, the Santa Maria, the Pinta, and the Nina. They touched at the Canary Islands, and had thence a prosperous passage across the unknown sea. After

meeting with a variety of experiences, a light in the of-  
fing was first seen by Columbus himself on the even-  
ing of October 11, and the next day land was hailed by  
one of the sailors. It proved to be an island (one of  
the Bahamas), to which, on landing, Columbus gave the  
name of San Salvador. After discovering several other  
islands in the vicinity, one of which he called Hispaniola,  
or Little Spain (now Hayti), Columbus set sail (January,  
1493) for home, leaving about one-fourth of his men as a  
colony in Hispaniola. In years following he made several  
other voyages to the New World.

**1497. John Cabot.** In May, John Cabot of uncertain  
nativity, first known as a Venetian, but afterwards resident  
in England, having obtained a charter from Henry VII.,  
set sail from Bristol, with his son Sebastian, in a single  
ship, for the New World. Late in June he reached what  
is now known as Labrador, and is supposed to have sailed  
thence southward along the coast for nearly 1000 miles.  
He made a landing, planted the flags of England and  
Venice on the soil, and returned to England in August.

**1497. Amerigo Vespucci.** In this same year proba-  
bly Amerigo Vespucci, otherwise known as Americus Ves-  
pucius, a native of Florence, joined an expedition from  
Spain to the New World, which penetrated to the main-  
land, coasted along the northern part of South America,  
and returned the following year to Spain (1499-1500 are  
preferred by some as the dates of this voyage). Vespucci



afterward made other voyages to the same quarter, and in 1507 a geographer of Freiburg, Germany, who supposed him to have been the true discoverer of the continent, is said to have given it his name, Americi Terra, or Land of Americus; whence America.\* For this appellation [assuming the truth of the tradition] Amerigo does not seem to have been in any wise responsible. He was a friend of Columbus.

**1500. Gaspar Cortereal**, a Portuguese, crossed the ocean this year at the head of an expedition, and explored the more northern shores of North America, giving the name Labrador (laborer) to the country now thereby known. From a subsequent voyage to the same regions he never returned.

1500. *Savanna-rola and Macchiavelli at Florence.*

**1502. Fourth Voyage of Columbus.** Columbus set sail from Cadiz on his fourth and last voyage to the New World, having it for his special object to discover a short passage to the East Indies; and, returning in 1504, soon after died.

**1512. Ponce de Leon**, who had accompanied Columbus on his second voyage, and been made Governor of the island of Porto Rico, sailed thence, March 3d, in search of land said to contain a fountain capable of restoring and perpetuating youth and beauty. Early in April he sighted the mainland; on the 8th disembarked near the site of the present city of St. Augustine; took possession of the country in the name of the King of Spain; and because of its luxuriant vegetation named it Florida. In 1513, De Leon was appointed Governor of Florida, and, some years

\* This theory as to the origin of the name America has been disputed by some recent writers, who hold that the word is native to the soil.

later, in attempting to conquer his province from the Indians, was wounded, and died in Cuba.

**1513. Vasco Nunez de Balboa**, a Spanish adventurer who had fled to Hispaniola for refuge from his creditors, being a member of an expedition engaged in the

*1517. Luther's opposition to Papal indulgences opens the Reformation.* exploration of the Isthmus of Darien, discovered from one of its mountains the Pacific Ocean. This was on the 26th of September. He planted a cross on the spot, and took possession of the territory, as usual, in the name of Spain.

**1519. Hernando Cortes**, a native of Spain, but for several years a resident of Hispaniola, landed in Mexico in March, in command of an expedition for the conquest of that country. After a prolonged campaign, marked by many

*1445-1520. Leonardo da Vinci.* battles and varying fortunes, he finally captured the City of Mexico and com-

*1483-1520. Raphael.* pleted the subjugation of the people. His character and policy were such, however,

*1519-1521. First voyage round the world, made by Magellan, a Portuguese navigator.* as to surround him with enemies, and though he was made Governor of Mexico, his administration was brief and far from prosperous or peaceful. In 1536

*1523. Gustavus Vasa accepts the title of King of Sweden.* he explored parts of California, and of the gulf since called by the same name, and, returning to Spain, died in 1547 in comparative obscurity.

**1524. Verrazzani**, sent out by France, coasted from North Carolina northward as far as the present harbors of

*1471-1528. Albert Durer.* New York and Newport, returning with glowing accounts of the wonders and

beauties of the New World.

**1531-1533. Pizarro's Conquest of Peru.** Fran-

cisco Pizarro, the conqueror of Peru, was a Spanish adventurer, who toward the close of the fifteenth, or early in the sixteenth, century, came over to the New World in search of his fortunes, and joined Balboa in his expeditions in Central America.

1532. *John Calvin active in promoting the Reformation in France.*

Afterwards, in company with Diego de Almagro, he explored the coast of New Granada. Learning of the riches of Peru, he returned to Spain to obtain authority and means for its subjugation, and in 1530 recrossed the Atlantic for that purpose at the head of a small force, accompanied by four of his brothers. In 1531 he advanced upon Peru by way of Panama, routed the opposing armies, entered the capital, Cuzco, and founded the city of Lima. The military government which he set up over the vanquished empire was a severe and cruel one, and he finally died by assassins led by young Almagro, whose father had been put to death in consequence of a quarrel with Pizarro. Pizarro was an avaricious, heartless, and ignorant man, but a bold and skilful soldier.

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### III.

#### PERIOD OF SETTLEMENT.

1534-1640.

**1534. Cartier in Canada.** In April, Jacques Cartier sailed at the head of the first of four French expeditions, the total result of which was the pretty thorough exploration of the waters about the mouth of

1535. *Henry VIII. of England excommunicated by the Pope.*

1540. *Ignatius Loyola founds the order of the Jesuits.* the St. Lawrence, and of that river itself, and the commencement of the colonization of Canada.

**1541. De Soto and the Mississippi.** Fernando De Soto was a Spanish adventurer, who, having made a previous expedition to Central America, and, later, accompanied Pizarro in the conquest of Peru, set sail from Spain in April, 1538, at the head of an expedition bent on the conquest of Florida. He reached what is now Tampa Bay in May, 1539, and began a march into the interior, which, after many hardships and adventures, brought him to the Mississippi in the summer of 1541. After a *détour* still further to the west, in attempting to descend the great

river he had discovered, he died by fever. To conceal the fact of his death, his followers sunk his body at midnight in the middle of the stream. Slowly and with much suffering, the latter,

greatly reduced in numbers, then made their escape from the wilderness, by way of Mexico.

**1562-1564. Coligny and the Huguenots.** Co-

ligny, the noble and heroic leader of the persecuted Protestants of France, who afterwards perished in the Massacre of

St. Bartholomew, sought to open an asylum in Florida for his suffering followers, and actually succeeded through agents in planting colonies there.

Through the intolerance of the Span-

iards, the effort proved finally a failure. In September, 1564, Melendez, who was especially charged with the duty of driving back the Huguenot exiles, founded the present city of St. Augustine, the oldest city in the United States.

**1567. Dominique De Gourgues**, born in Gascony, France, headed an expedition this year to avenge the cruelties inflicted by the Spaniards on his countrymen in Florida, and did so by surprising and massacring two Spanish garrisons on the St. John's River. Melendez had placed over his victims some such inscription as, "Not as to Frenchmen, but as to heretics." Gourgues placed over his victims the legend "Not as to Spaniards, but as to traitors, robbers, and murderers."

*1567. Mary Queen of Scots marries Earl Bothwell, and is dethroned and imprisoned.*

*1565-1572. John Knox.*

*1572. The Massacre of St. Bartholomew's Day, and other persecutions of French Protestants.*

**1576-1578. Frobisher's Arctic Expeditions.** During these years, Sir Martin Frobisher, Englishman, conducted three expeditions in search of a north-west passage, going by way of Labrador and Greenland, and discovering the entrances to Hudson's Bay. Frobisher's Strait bears his name.

**1583. Sir Humphrey Gilbert**, half-brother to Sir Walter Raleigh, and an English soldier of good education, founded a colony in Newfoundland, under a charter from Queen Elizabeth. The colony was short-lived, however, and the vessel which was bearing him and his company home again was lost at sea with all on board.

**1584. Cape Breton** was discovered by the English.

**1585. Sir Walter Raleigh and Virginia.** Sir Walter Raleigh, an accomplished courtier of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, obtained from her in 1584 a grant of the region which now comprises the State of Virginia, and in the year following sent out an expedition to take possession of it. The expedition, commanded by Sir Richard Grenville, landed at Roanoke Island in midsummer; but its stay was of short duration. Several subsequent attempts were made

by Raleigh to effect the permanent settlement of his domain; but a waste of energies in profitless search for gold and silver, consequent scarcity of food, hostilities of the Indians, and other difficulties, combined to offer a formidable interference, and the enterprise was finally abandoned. — An incident of this attempt at settlement was the birth, at Roanoke, in August, 1587, of the first child of English parents in the New World. This was Virginia Dare, grand-daughter to John White, the governor of one of the colonies sent out by Sir Walter Raleigh, and daughter to one of his assistants, who had married Governor White's daughter.

**1585-1587. Davis's Arctic Expeditions.** John

1587. *Mary Queen of Scots beheaded in Fotheringay Castle, after a captivity of nearly nineteen years.*

1588. *The Spanish Armada defeated in the English Channel, by Sir Francis Drake.*

Davis, Englishman, followed Frobisher with three voyages in search of the north-west passage; in the course of which he discovered and explored the strait which now bears his name, and coasted along Greenland as far north as lat. 72° 12'.

**1592. The French in Nova Scotia.** The Marquis

De la Roche, a French nobleman, sailed at the head of a

1533-1599. *Edmund Spenser.*

1598. *Religious liberty restored to French Protestants by the Edict of Nantes.*

colony, mostly composed of pardoned convicts from the prisons of Paris. This colony he planted on Sable Island, which lies nearly 100 miles S.E. from the extreme eastern point of Nova Scotia. De la Roche, returning to France, soon died,

his colony was neglected, and after a few years its few remaining members found passage home.

**1602. Gosnold and Cape Cod.** Bartholomew Gosnold, Englishman, who had served under Sir Walter Ra-

leigh in the attempt to colonize Virginia, sailed from Falmouth, England, at the head of a small colony. He made a direct voyage across the Atlantic, instead of by the usual route of the Canaries and the West Indies, and made the Massachusetts coast not far from Nahant. He first landed on the singular promontory which he named Cape Cod, and, circumnavigating that, he successively discovered, landed upon, and named several islands in the vicinity of Buzzard's Bay, one of which was Martha's Vineyard. Various difficulties and forebodings led to the abandonment of the first purpose of the colonists to effect a settlement in this region, and they presently returned to England.

**1603. Champlain in Canada.** Samuel de Champlain was a Frenchman, who came of a seafaring family,

and had served in both the army and the navy of his country. In May of this year he sailed in command of an expedition empowered by Henry IV. to found a colony in North America. His first anchorage was on the St. Lawrence, at the mouth of the Saguenay, and his first task the

*1603. England and Scotland united, under James I. [James VI. of Scotland], son of Mary Queen of Scots.*

exploration of the former river. In the course of several expeditions which he made to the New World, he explored the shores of what are now known as the Eastern Provinces; followed the coast southward as far as Cape Cod, keeping always a careful record of his observations; familiarized himself closely with the St. Lawrence; entered and named for himself Lake Champlain; had various and severe encounters with the Indians; and was rewarded with the final satisfaction of witnessing a permanent settlement of the Canadas. Added to Champlain's abilities as an explorer and

*1605. Discovery of the Gunpowder Plot for the blowing up of the English House of Parliament.*

organizer, was a strong religious sentiment and a hearty zeal in behalf of the missionary efforts of the Jesuits.

### 1607. English Settlements in Maine and Virginia.

In 1606 King James I. of England chartered the Plymouth

1607-1611. *Completion of that version of the Bible now generally in use: known as "King James's Version."*

Company, of "knights, gentlemen, and merchants," chiefly from the west of England, to take possession of that part of North America lying between the 34th and the 38th degrees of latitude; and also the London Company, of "noblemen, gentlemen, and merchants,"

mostly of London, to take similar possession of the territory between the 41st and 45th degrees; the intermediate portion to be open, under certain limitations, to both. The "Plymouth Company" planted a colony the following year at the mouth of the Kennebec, at a point now included in the town of Phippsburg; but, by reason of the hardships they encountered, the settlers were speedily forced to abandon the ground and return to England. The "London Company" met with better success. An expedition, composed\* of about 100 men, and commanded by Christopher Newport, was despatched late in 1606. Early in 1607 it entered Chesapeake Bay, ascended the James River, and

1560-1609. *Arminius.*

selected a place for a settlement, which was called Jamestown, like the river, in honor of the King. Gosnold, and the famous Captain John Smith, were prominent members of this expedition, which was the means of effecting the first permanent settlement of the English in the New World.

**1609. The Pilgrims.** In this year we find at Leyden a company of English Congregationalists, who had made their escape from the North of England from religious persecution. There were several hundred of them. They



constituted really a church, having John Robinson as pastor and William Brewster as elder. In their exile, they easily supported themselves by divers trades, and led godly and peaceable lives which won the admiration of the Dutch. After a residence in Holland of about ten years, the church determined to divide in two; one company, consisting of about one-third of the entire number, to proceed to America with the purpose of there founding a Christian commonwealth. On the 21st of July, 1620, the band of emigrants, led by William Brewster, sailed for England, thence to take their final départure for their new home across the sea. Such was the origin of the Pilgrims, who afterwards landed where is now Plymouth, Mass., and were largely instrumental in founding New England life and character. This party is carefully to be distinguished from the "Plymouth Company," named in the preceding paragraph.

**1607-1610. Hudson's Voyages.** During these four years Henry Hudson, sailing successively in the employ of English and Dutch merchants, made several voyages to North America, in the course of which he explored the coast as far south as Chesapeake Bay, discovered and ascended the river which has since borne his name, and entered Hudson's Bay in search of a north-west passage. Forced to return by the giving out of his stores, his crew mutinied, and he and a faithful few were abandoned in an open boat. The particulars of their fate were never determined.

1610. *Henry IV. of France assassinated by Ravillac.*

**1610. The Dutch and New York.** The settlement of New York originated with the discovery and exploration of the Hudson River by Hudson, and dates from the arrival of a trading expedition sent out to that

region by the Dutch East India Company. This was about 1610. Rude settlements followed on Manhattan Island, the site of the present city of New York, and at or near the site of Albany. New Netherlands was the name first given to the country; and the infant settlement on Manhattan Island was called New Amsterdam. The date of actual colonization has been commonly fixed as 1623, in which year a company of well-equipped settlers arrived on the ground. Some of these settlers established themselves across the river in New Jersey. In this same year, 1623, the first white child was born in the colony, named Sarah Rapelje. Two or three years later Brooklyn was founded. During all this time the Dutch at the mouth of the Hudson were little more than a company of traders.

**1612-1616. Baffin's Voyages.** William Baffin, Englishman, made several voyages in search of the north-west passage, in the course of which he discovered and explored the arctic bay now known by his name.

**1613. Pocahontas** was an Indian girl, daughter of Powhatan, Indian chief of Virginia. Tradition attributes to her many friendly and heroic services in behalf of the English settlers, Captain John Smith especially. In April, 1613, at Jamestown, she was married to an Englishman, John Rolfe by name, and after a few years visited England, where she suddenly died on the eve of embarking on her return.

**1614. Captain John Smith**, who had played a very

1564-1616. *Wil-* prominent part in the settlement of Vir-  
*liam Shakspear's.* ginia, and had made extensive explora-  
 1618-1648. *Thir-* tions of the Chesapeake and along the  
*ty Years' War,* coast, prosecuted his discoveries this  
*between the Prot-* year along the coast of New England,  
*estants and Ro-* from the Penobscot to Cape Cod, visited  
*man Catholics of*  
*Germany.*

the Isles of Shoals, and returned to England with a map of the country.

**1620. The Pilgrims and Plymouth.** On the 16th of September the band of English fugitives, who had crossed to England from Holland on their way to America, set sail for their home in the wilderness over the sea. Of their two vessels, one, the *Speedwell*, was obliged to put back because unseaworthy. The other, the *Mayflower*, with a company of about 100 persons, kept on. The Hudson River was the point aimed at, but Cape Cod was struck instead. The voyage was long and trying. For nearly a month they reconnoitred the shores seeking a place to land; and finally, on the 21st of December, disembarked where the town of Plymouth now stands. Having no charter, they signed a compact in the cabin of the *Mayflower* before landing, binding themselves into "a civil body politic." John Carver was chosen governor, and Miles Standish military commander. Upon reaching the shore, they at once set to work to build themselves cabins, a storehouse, and some suitable defences, and thus to make themselves comfortable and secure for the winter.

**1620. The First Slaves.** The year of the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth was also the year of the landing of the first slaves upon what is now territory of the United States. These were brought by a Dutch vessel to Jamestown, and there offered for sale. They were twenty in number. The system thus introduced soon extended into other colonies, though some of them protested against the trade.

**1623. Sir F. Gorges and Laconia.** Sir Ferdinand Gorges and John Mason were both members of the "Plymouth Company." (See p. 16.) Gorges had already

engaged in the unsuccessful attempt to colonize Maine. In 1622, he and Mason obtained from the Company a grant of a tract lying partly in each of the present States of Maine and New Hampshire. To this they gave the name Laconia, and the following year sent out parties to settle it. The present city of Dover marks the site of

1561-1626.

one of those settlements. Shortly afterwards a certain part of this tract was assigned to Mason alone, and then received the name of New Hampshire.

### **1628-1630. Boston and Massachusetts Bay.**

In 1628 a colony, chartered by the "Plymouth Company" (see p. 16), headed by John Endicott, entered Salem Harbor, and effected a settlement. The following year a re-enforcement arrived, and Charlestown was settled. The next year, 1630, still larger accessions were received, all of excellent people, among them John Winthrop. This same year Boston was founded, as also Roxbury, Dorchester, Watertown, Cambridge (under the name of Newtown), and some other towns in the vicinity. The Massachusetts Bay colonists, like their brethren at Plymouth, were people of strong religious sentiments and elevated character, who likewise had left England because of oppression for opinion's sake; but there were some important differences of temper between them, and though they combined to lay the foundations of New England they should be carefully distinguished from each other. The Massachusetts Bay colonists alone are properly called "Puritans," the Plymouth colonists "Pilgrims." For many years, until 1692, the two colonies remained distinct from each other.

**1631.** The first vessel built on the Massachusetts shore was launched July 4. She was named the "Blessing of the Bay."

**1631. Connecticut.** The English Lords Say-and-Seal, Brooke, and their associates, received a patent from the Earl of Warwick, to settle Connecticut; to which territory, however, the Dutch also laid claim.

1632. *Battle of Lutzen. Death of Gustavus Adolphus, the great Protestant hero of Germany.*

**1634. Maryland.** The settlement of Maryland was due primarily to George Calvert, Englishman, first Lord Baltimore, and a Roman Catholic, who, having in 1625 made an unsuccessful attempt to colonize Newfoundland, obtained from King James a grant of the territory now forming the States of Maryland and Delaware. Dying before the papers were actually executed, the charter was transferred to his second son, Cecil, who gave up the management of the projected colony to his elder brother, Leonard. Leonard Calvert sailed in November, 1633, with a company of about 200 persons, and, in March following, reached the Chesapeake, and on one of its estuaries founded the town of St. Mary's, of which, however, scarcely a trace now remains. Considerable difficulty was experienced with a previous trading settler of the region, William Clayborne, but he was finally dispossessed of his claim. A legislative assembly was convened at St. Mary's, in 1635, and soon after the Roman Catholic religion was made the religion of the State, but with entire toleration towards Christians of other beliefs. Religious freedom was a corner-stone of this colony from the first.

**1635-1638. Further Settlements in Connecticut.** In 1635, parties from Massachusetts removed to the valley of the Connecticut, and founded the towns of Windsor, Wethersfield, and Hartford. A settlement was made at the mouth of the river, and named Saybrooke after Lord

Say-and-Seal, and Lord Brooke. Among those who followed thither from Massachusetts in 1636, was Rev. Thomas Hooker, who had just come over from England, and who became a minister of the church in Hartford ; and, in 1638, Rev. John Davenport, who with his associates settled New Haven. These early settlers in Connecticut were involved in a formidable war with the Pequod Indians.

**1636. Roger Williams and Rhode Island.** Roger Williams was a Welshman by birth, who came to America in 1631, and was for a time a minister of the church in Salem. He soon provoked opposition by his opinions on various subjects ; and particularly for his protest against the right of the magistrates to punish other offences than those against the civil law ; and by order of the general court was presently banished. This act would seem to have confirmed what was a previous purpose in his mind, of founding a colony of his own upon the principles of the broadest civil and religious freedom. Eluding the attempt of the authorities to send him back to England, he proceeded with a few companions to the shores of Narragansett Bay and founded Providence, giving that name to the settlement in recognition of what he esteemed to be the divine leading. The organization of the First Baptist Church in America soon followed on this spot, and in time the colony secured a charter from England, Williams himself serving as president for between two and three years. The fundamental principle of this Rhode Island Colony was an absolute prohibition of all interference with the rights of conscience.

**1638. Harvard College.** This, the oldest collegiate institution in the United States, was projected by the Massachusetts colonists as early as 1636, who appropriated £400 as its foundation. But its actual existence began two

years later, with its further endowment by the will of Rev. John Harvard, minister of Charlestown, whose name it bears. The first class entered upon study at this time, under the instruction of Nathaniel Eaton.

**1639. The Connecticut Colonists** adopted a written constitution, the leading features of which afterward entered into the constitutions of other States. In this same year Stephen Day, or Daye, set up at Cambridge the first printing-press in the colonies, the first issue of which was the "Freeman's Oath."

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#### IV.

### PERIOD OF COLONIAL GROWTH.

1640-1775.

**1641. The people of New Hampshire** put themselves under the jurisdiction of Massachusetts, and so remained for nearly forty years. In this same year Sir William Berkeley came over as Governor of Virginia.

1564-1642. *Galileo.*  
1642. *Civil war in England. Parliament arrayed against Charles I.*

**1643. The United Colonies of New England.** For their mutual benefit the Plymouth, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Haven colonies banded together this year under the name of The United Colonies of New England; each to be independent as respected its own internal affairs, but submitting matters of joint interest to the control of commissioners, two from each

1545. *Battle of Naseby, England, between Charles I. and the parliamentary forces under Cromwell and Fairfax. Final defeat of the former. — Arch-*

*bishop Laud be-headed.* colony, who were<sup>e</sup> required to be church members. Here we find the seed of the present union of the States.

**1646. John Eliot's Mission to the Indians.** John Eliot, Englishman, and a student of Cambridge, came to Boston in 1631, became "teacher" of the church in Roxbury, was impressed with the religious needs of the Indians, acquired their language, and preached to them for the first time in what is now Newton, October 28, 1646. The remainder of his life he devoted to the work which was here begun; pursuing it for forty-four years with most fervent zeal. He travelled extensively among the Indians, planted churches, trained up native preachers to assist him in the work, ministered freely of such substance as he had to their wants, translated the Bible into their language, and in short exercised a commanding and inspiring influence upon them in every way. The place of Eliot's burial is not known, but a monument has been erected to his memory at South Natick.

**1647. Governor Stuyvesant.** Peter Stuyvesant reached New Amsterdam this year under appointment of the Dutch West India Company, as "director-general" of New Netherlands. He found the colony considerably disturbed by reason of Indian hostilities on the one hand, and boundary disputes on the other. He at once vigorously addressed himself to the cure of these troubles, and was in a measure successful, but his administration of affairs was not very popular. Little by little the New England ideas took hold of the New Netherlanders, and when, in 1664, King Charles II. granted to his brother, the Duke of York, the whole of the territory from the Connecticut River to the Delaware, Governor Stuyvesant was forced to surrender his rule to the expedition sent out to take possession of



the province. Thus the Dutch colony of New Netherlands passed under the control of the English, Stuyvesant being its last Dutch governor, and the town of New Amsterdam changed its name to New York.

**1637-1648. Church Assemblies.** The period enclosed within these two dates was marked by several representative gatherings of the New England Congregational churches, all of considerable importance. The first, the Synod of Newtown, now Cambridge, was held in 1637, mainly for the correction of certain alleged doctrinal errors. The second, held also at Cambridge, in 1646, with successive adjournments to 1647 and 1648, put forth what is known among Congregationalists as the Cambridge Platform, a declaration of church discipline. These two synods, or councils, were the first of the series which has lately developed into the National Council of Congregational Churches.

**1652. The colony of Maine** passed under the jurisdiction of Massachusetts.

*1650. Sect of Friends, or "Quakers," founded in England by George Fox.*

**1656. Persecution of the Quakers.** An attempt was made by the New England Colonies

to keep out the Quakers, who were beginning to come over in considerable numbers. Some were sent back, and forbidden to return under pain of death.

A few who braved this decree were put to death. But in consequence of a re-

action in public sentiment this severity of treatment was relaxed.

**1660. The Regicides.** Edward Whalley and William Goffe, two of the judges who tried and condemned

*1649. Execution of Charles I., and establishment of the English Commonwealth.*

*1653. Oliver Cromwell made Lord Protector of England. John Milton his private secretary.*

*1657. Prussia's independence of Poland declared.*

*1604-1660. Rembrandt.*

1660. *Restoration of the Stuarts to the throne of England, in the person of Charles II.*

Charles I., fled to America after the restoration. Being pursued, they took refuge in the wilderness. For some time they concealed themselves in a cave near New Haven, and afterward were harbored by a minister of Hadley. Many years after, when a sudden attack upon the latter town by the Indians was in progress, an old, white-bearded man appeared in the midst of the scene, rallied the terror-stricken inhabitants and put the enemy to flight. The mysterious stranger, who was none other than Goffe, then disappeared.

**1663. The Grand Model.** This was the name given to a constitution framed for the government of a colony projected by the Earl of Shaftesbury, Sir William Berkeley, Sir George Carteret, and several others, to whom Charles II., in consideration of services rendered him, granted the immense tract of land lying between Virginia and Florida. Shaftesbury and John Locke drew up the instrument, which provided for a social structure of truly mediæval description. The Carolinas were settled under this charter.

**1664. New Jersey.** The territory composing this State belonged originally to the Dutch colony of New Netherlands. With the submission of that colony to the English, under the Duke of York, this southern portion of it was conveyed by him to Sir William Berkeley and Sir George Carteret, receiving its present name out of compliment to the latter, who was formerly Governor of the Island of Jersey in the British Channel. Elizabethtown was settled in 1664, and here Carteret took up his residence a year later. Most of the first settlers of New Jersey came from New York and the New England colonies.

**1665. Father Allouez.** In this year we find Father

Allouez, a Jesuit priest, exploring the region about the Great Lakes and the upper valley of the Mississippi, collecting geographical data, and establishing missions among the Indians. His residence in America extended from 1658 for a number of years, until his death.

1665. *The Plague in London carries off nearly 70,000 persons.*

**1666-1675. Marquette and the Mississippi.** The second European to explore the Mississippi was Jacques Marquette, a French Jesuit, who came to Canada in 1666, and succeeded Father Allouez as a missionary among the Indian tribes in the vicinity of the Great Lakes. He died in 1675 at a spot on the Eastern shore of Lake Michigan which now bears his name. The years of his residence in the wilderness were largely taken up with exploring expeditions, one of which was the descent of the Mississippi, nearly to its mouth.

1666. *A great fire in London destroys 89 churches, many public buildings, 13,000 houses, and lays waste 700 streets.*

**1669. La Salle.** La Salle was a Frenchman, who came to Canada in 1666, and three years later entered on a series of expeditions through the interior of the continent which, with interruptions of one or two trips home, continued for nearly ten years. He sailed through the Great Lakes in a vessel of fifty-five tons, of his own construction, descended the Ohio River to the point where Louisville now stands, and the Mississippi to its mouth. He finally perished by the hands of his disaffected followers, his plans for a settlement at the mouth of the Mississippi having all miscarried.

**1670. The city of Charleston, S. C.,** was founded about this time, by an English colony under William Sayle.

**1675. King Philip's War.** The war between the Massachusetts colonists and the Indians, known as King Philip's War, was begun in this year by an attack of the Indians on the town of Swanzy. The colonists at once retaliated, and hostilities continued for some three years, in the course of which a number of battles were fought and many lives lost on both sides. The war ended with the death of Philip.

**1681. Pennsylvania.** In this year William Penn, a Quaker, received from Charles II. a grant of all the territory

now included in the State of Pennsylvania, for the purpose of founding a Christian community dedicated to justice, truth, and peace. He sent out

three ship-loads of emigrants at once, and followed himself with a large additional number the next year. One of his first acts was to hold a conference with the Indians, with whom he established friendly relations at the outset. Previous settlers upon the territory were treated with the same consideration, and the result was the commencement of his

colony under peculiarly pleasant and favorable auspices. The city of Philadelphia was laid out, upon a map, in 1683, and the second provincial assembly was held there the same year.

Troubles subsequently arose between Penn and some of the colonists, which resulted in the secession of three counties. This was the origin of Delaware.

**1685-1690. Political Troubles.** This was a period of considerable political trial to the young colonies. King James of England, minded to restrict the liberties of the New England colonies, sent over Sir Edmund Andros as Governor General, with arbitrary powers for the

censorship of the press, the levying of taxes, and the control of the militia. Andros speedily made himself obnoxious to the colonists, who took no pains to conceal their indignation. By way of retaliation, Andros summoned both Rhode Island and Connecticut to surrender their charters; but his tyranny came to an end with the accession of William to the English throne, by whom he was summoned home. In New York one Jacob Leisler, a demagogue, put himself at the head of a force of disaffected citizens, seized the fort and the public funds, assumed the title and powers of commander-in-chief, and attempted the subjugation of the entire province. After a brief exercise of his usurped authority, he was superseded by Henry Sloughter, sent over as Governor by King William, and was finally put to death as a traitor.

**1689. King William's War.** In this year the Indians joined the French in Canada in a war against the New England Colonies which continued for a number of years, and was the occasion of great sufferings to the settlers. Many frightful massacres occurred, and many settlers were carried into captivity.

**1692. William and Mary College** was founded this year, at Williamsburg, Virginia, making it next to Harvard the oldest college in the country. It was named for the English King and Queen. In this year also the Salem Witchcraft troubles began, the theory of which was that the devil made use of human confederates for the tormenting of people. These confederates were called witches.

1685. *The revocation of the Edict of Nantes, by Louis XIV. of France, lets loose upon Protestants fresh furies of persecution.*

1618-1685. *Murillo.*

1688. *James II. abdicates the English throne, and is succeeded by William III. and Mary II., Prince and Princess of Orange.*

Within a few months some twenty persons in and about Salem were convicted of witchcraft and put to death, and many more suffered various other penalties.

**1699. Louisiana.** The attention of the French was promptly turned to the region which La Salle had explored and unsuccessfully attempted to settle, and Lemoine D'Ibberville was soon commissioned to plant a colony at

the mouth of the Mississippi. He entered the river in March, being the first who had ever entered it from the sea; ascended it nearly to the mouth of the Red River, and founded a settlement where is now Biloxi in Mississippi. Shortly after the colony was removed to the vicinity of Mobile.

**1700.** *"New Style" of notation of time introduced in Germany, by dropping the last eleven days of February.*

**1705. The Presbyterians.** The first Presbyterian church on American soil was that of Snow Hill, Maryland, organized in 1690; but the first presbytery, that of Philadelphia, was not organized till 1705. A synod of four presbyteries was constituted in 1716, and in 1758 the American Presbyterian Churches united as one; holding in 1789 a General Assembly which represented 419 congregations with 188 ministers.

**1702-1713. Queen Anne's War.** This was the period of another savage warfare, in which the colonies were more or less generally involved; the Indians being in many cases instigated and supported by the French. It

was in the course of this war that the Massachusetts village of Deerfield was

surprised by a force of French and Indians, almost all its buildings burned, and thirty-six of its inhabitants slain outright; while over a hundred were carried

**1632-1704.** *John Locke.*  
**1707.** *England and Scotland united, under the title of Great Britain.*

prisoners to Canada, some of them even being killed on the way.

**1711-1715. Indian War in the Carolinas.** During these years the Tuscaroras and Corees made war upon the settlers along the coast of North Carolina, creating much havoc in many villages. Scarcely had peace been concluded in this quarter before the tribes further to the south commenced hostilities, and South Carolina was involved in a conflict which lasted several years longer.

**1715. The foundations of Natchez and New Orleans** are to be discerned about this time in the early settlements of the French along the valley of the Mississippi.

**1717. The Mississippi Bubble.** John Law, a famous European speculator and stock-jobber, was chief agent in the organization of what was called "The Mississippi Company." This corporation secured for a long term of years a monopoly of supposed great privileges in Louisiana. As a consequence the stock first went up to a fabulous price, and then came a disastrous explosion.

**1729. Separation of the Carolinas.** Up to this time North and South Carolina had existed as one province under the general superintendence of the same proprietors. But shortly before a quarrel had broken out between the proprietors and the people, the result of which now was that the former surrendered their

1713. *Britain, by the treaty of Utrecht, acquires Gibraltar, Minorca, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, and Hudson's Bay.*

1714. *George I., of the House of Brunswick, ascends the British throne: head of the present line.*

1651-1715. *Fenelon.*

1689-1725. *Peter the Great, sole Emperor of Russia.*

1642-1727. *Sir Isaac Newton.*

1729. *Appearance of the Methodists at Oxford, England. — The Wesleys.*

charter to the king. North and South Carolina became separate provinces, each under its own royal government.

**1732. The Birth of George Washington.** George Washington was born February 22d (11th, Old Style) in Westmoreland County, Va., Parish Washington, near Pope's Creek. His father was a large landed proprietor, who traced his English ancestry back to the 12th century.

**1733. Georgia.** The territory which composes the present state of Georgia originally formed part of the Carolinas, but in this year was granted by George II. to a corporation for settlement under the title of the Colony of Georgia. In the autumn of this year, General Oglethorpe took out the first colony, consisting of about 120 persons, and in the year following founded Savannah. Oglethorpe at once established friendly relations with the Indians, and the colony entered on a prosperous career, though hostilities ensued with the Spanish settlers in Florida. The colony was visited at an early day by John Wesley and George Whitefield on religious errands. After Oglethorpe's final return to England in 1743, the colony entered on a period of adversity. Slavery, which had at first been interdicted, was introduced, and in 1752 the colony surrendered its charter and was erected into a royal province.

**1733. The liberty of the press** to discuss political measures was vindicated and established through the case of the "New York Weekly Journal," published by one John Peter Zenger, which had dared to criticise some of the arbitrary acts of the Governor and Assembly in the imposition of taxes.

**1734. The preaching of Jonathan Edwards,** one of the most celebrated of American divines and metaphysicians, led to a very extensive revival of religion throughout the New England Colonies. It was in the course of



this revival that he delivered his famous sermon on "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God."

**1741. New Hampshire** was finally separated from its connection with Massachusetts.

**1744. King George's War.** This war between the English colonies and the French broke out in Cape Breton in an attack by the French upon an English garrison, which was captured and carried to the Fortress of Louisburg. The following year the New England Colonies sent an expedition of several thousand men, under command of William Pepperell, to release the prisoners. The expedition was successful and Louisburg capitulated. It was restored to the French by the treaty of Aix la Chapelle in 1748, which marked the end of this war.

1745, 1746.  
*Young Prince Charles, grandson to James II., attempts to recover the British crown. Defeated at Culloden.*

1753. *Founding of the British Museum.*

**1755-1763. The Old French and Indian War.** War again broke out between the French and English over the possession of the territory which now forms Ohio. The French held it, and resisted the entrance of the English. In 1753, George Washington was sent by the Governor of Virginia to protest against the course taken by the French. The protest was of no avail and hostilities began. General Braddock came over in 1765 to lead forward the English forces. In a battle at Fort Du Quesne, where Pittsburg now stands, Braddock was defeated and slain. Washington succeeded to the command. Of two simultaneous expeditions toward the north, only one was successful. The war was however

1755. *Lisbon, Portugal, destroyed by an earthquake.*

1756-1763.  
*"Seven Years' War," between Prussia and Austria.*

1757. *The English under Lord Clive recapture Calcutta, and*

*regain ascen-  
dency in India.*  
1684-1759.  
*Handel.*

carried forward. A force under Lord Amherst captured Fort Ticonderoga and Crown Point, and another, led by General Wolfe, marched upon Quebec, which finally fell before a siege. Both Wolfe, and Montcalm the French commander, were slain. So ended this war, Canada passing under British rule.

**1762.** The French cede Louisiana to Spain.

**1764.** **The charter of Brown University** was granted at the instance of the Philadelphia Association of Baptist Churches.

**1765.** **Resistance to the Stamp Act.** The Stamp Act was a measure adopted at this time by the British Government to secure revenue. It provided that for all legal documents only a certain kind of stamped paper should be used, sold by the government. The American Colonies felt it to be very unjust that they should be obliged to pay taxes in this way to a government in which they had no share. "No taxation without representation" was the principle for which they contended. The first formal protest against the obnoxious measure was offered in the Assembly of Virginia, by one of its youngest members, Patrick Henry, in the shape of resolutions, which he supported by a speech since famous. "Cæsar had his Brutus," exclaimed the young patriot, "Charles the First his Cromwell, and George the Third" — at which point he was interrupted for a moment by the cry of "Treason" in the hall; whereupon, concluding his sentence, he added — "may profit by their example. If that be treason, make the most of it." \* Massachusetts and others of the colonies

\* A portrait of Speaker Robinson, who called Patrick Henry to order during this celebrated speech, has lately been added to the collection in Independence Hall, Philadelphia.

joined Virginia in resistance to what was considered such oppressive treatment on the part of the Mother Country, and on the day when the Stamp Act finally went in force, the bells throughout the country were tolled, and flags were lowered to half-mast, in token of the "funeral of liberty." A year later the Act was repealed by Parliament.

**1765. The First American Congress.** The feeling in the colonies over the Stamp Act was such as to induce Massachusetts to call together a representative assembly to consider the situation. Delegates from nine out of the thirteen colonies met accordingly in New York, in October of this year; made a declaration of rights, drew up a memorial to the British Parliament, and addressed a petition to the king. This was the first congress.

**1767. The Tea Tax.** In place of the repealed Stamp Act, the British Parliament imposed a tax on tea and other commodities of common and needful use imported by the colonies; which was only imperilling in another way the principle for which the latter were contending. This tax was resisted like the other, Massachusetts of the colonies, and Boston of Massachusetts towns, being foremost in the opposition.

**1769. Daniel Boone** set out this year upon an expedition to explore Kentucky, whither he afterward removed with his family. He rendered good and faithful service in fighting the Indians.

**1770. The Boston Massacre.** The presence of British troops in Boston, for the purpose of enforcing hateful laws and putting down insubordination, did not tend to allay the public excitement. On the evening of the 5th of March an actual affray took place in the streets of the city, between the exasperating soldiers and the hot-blooded

1714-1770.  
*George Whitefield.*

citizens. A squad of the former, acting under direction of

1770. *Captain  
Cook discovers  
Botany Bay and  
takes possession  
of New South  
Wales.*

one Captain Preston, fired upon the crowd, wounding several persons, and killing three. One of the killed was Crispus Attucks, a mulatto, who was the leader of the mob. This unfortu-

nate affair produced intense feeling throughout the colonies, and was another exciting cause of the Revolution.

**1772. The Fate of the "Gaspee."** The Gaspee was a British war vessel, which, in the rendering of some ser-

1689-1772.  
*Emanuel Swe-  
denborg.*

vice distasteful to the indignant colonists, in Narragansett Bay, had got aground a few miles below Providence.

News of her mishap spread rapidly, and under cover of night a party of patriots boarded her, captured the crew, and burned the vessel.

**1773. The Spilling of the Tea.** The perpetuation of the tax on tea, as the king had said, just "to keep up the right of taxing," embittered the colonists generally more and more, and led to the formation in various parts of the country of associations of persons under pledge not to use any tea until the tax was removed. Some of the resisters to the tax went even further, and resolved that no tea at all should be landed in the country. When therefore it was learned in Boston that several cargoes were on the way, a mass meeting was called at Faneuil Hall, which afterward adjourned to the Old South Church, and it was then and there resolved that the ships ought to be sent back. The governor, Hutchinson, refused his consent to this measure. When therefore the ships had arrived in their berths, a band of men, disguised as Indians, went on board, and threw all the tea over into the sea. This was on the 18th of December, and is known as the "Boston Tea Party."

**1774. The Boston Port Bill.** To punish Boston for this act, the British Parliament passed a bill closing Boston to commerce, and transferring the seat of the colonial government to Salem. This was 1728-1774. *Oliver Goldsmith.* intended to cut off the city from all outside communications by water, which would have been a very serious matter; but gifts began at once to flow in from the other colonies, and with them came plenty of sympathy and moral support, so that the fires of the Revolution, instead of being put out, were fanned into a new glow. In this same year General Gage superseded Hutchinson as Governor of Massachusetts.

**1774. The Continental Congress.** This body, called into being by the gravity of the situation, met at Philadelphia, September 5, fifty-five delegates being present, representing all the colonies but Georgia. Among its numbers were George Washington, Patrick Henry, Samuel and John Adams, and President Witherspoon of Princeton College. The unanimous spirit of the Congress was one of firmness in resisting what were deemed the encroachments of Great Britain and of readiness for the worst. A declaration of rights was adopted, the chief demands of which were for the right of the colonies to make their own laws and lay their own taxes; and for the removal of the British standing army, except with consent of the colonies for its remaining. Following these deliberative measures, active preparations for the armed support of them were begun in the colonies, in Massachusetts especially; while at Boston, as being the source and centre of the trouble, British troops began to be gathered in considerable numbers.

## V.

## PERIOD OF THE REVOLUTION.

1775-1783.

**1775. Lexington and Concord.** The actual beginning of the War of the Revolution was at Lexington and Concord, towns a few miles to the west of Boston. Massachusetts had collected some military stores at Concord, the more remote of the two. General Gage determined on their destruction, and, on the night of the 18th of April, secretly despatched a body of troops to effect it. The purpose of the movement was discovered, and the warning given by Paul Revere, who rode out from Boston and alarmed the residents along the road. The "minute-men," as a portion of the colonial militia were called who were expected to be ready for any such sudden emergency, sprang to arms. When the British troops reached Lexington they were fired upon, and here (April 19th) was spilled the first blood of the Revolution. Major Pitcairn was in command of the invading force. He pushed on to Concord, and succeeded in destroying some of the stores; but was finally forced to beat a retreat, and suffered heavily in returning to Boston. His losses were nearly 300 killed and wounded.

**1775. The Continental Army.** With the battle of Lexington and Concord any expectation of a peaceable settlement of difficulties between the American colonies and Great Britain ceased. The raising of a New England army of 30,000 men was promptly decided upon; the quota of Massachusetts to be 13,000. By the 1st of May 20,000 men were encamped about Boston, leaving the British

practically shut up in the city. General Ward commanded the Massachusetts men, General Stark those from New Hampshire, General Greene those from Rhode Island, and Generals Putnam and Spencer those from Connecticut.

**1775. The Capture of Ticonderoga.** While the Continental Army was assembling, a force of Connecticut and Vermont volunteers, led by Benedict Arnold and Ethan Allen, marched to Forts Ticonderoga and Crown Point, at the foot of Lake Champlain, both of which important fortresses were captured, with all their valuable stores. Throughout this period of opening conflict, the hearts of the Virginians, Carolinians, and Georgians beat one with those of the New England colonists.

**1775. The Second Continental Congress** assembled in Philadelphia on the 10th of May. In addition to the distinguished members of the previous body, there were present Benjamin Franklin and John Hancock. Still another address was sent to the King, denying any desire for separation from England, and asking simply for a redress of grievances. At the same time a federal union was resolved upon, measures were adopted for the organization and equipment of an army and navy, and George Washington was appointed commander-in-chief.

**1775. The Battle of Bunker Hill.** This first really important, and perhaps most famous, battle of the Revolutionary War, was fought June 17th, on one of the hills of Charlestown, now a part of Boston. It resulted in a defeat for the Americans ; but it was a defeat which meant more and better for them than most victories. The engagement grew out of an attempt of the Americans to prevent the British from fortifying the hill, and so strengthening their hold upon Boston. The Americans landed in the night and threw up intrenchments, which the British as-

saulted the following day. The attacking force numbered about 3000 men, being two to one of the Americans, and they were twice repulsed before finally carrying the day. Their losses were upwards of 1000 killed and wounded ; these figures bearing the same proportion to the American losses as above. The severest blow to the Americans was in the death of General Joseph Warren, an eminent physician of Boston, and an ardent and active patriot, who had just been commissioned a brigadier-general in the American army. He was instantly killed by a bullet in the forehead.

**1775. Washington takes Command of the American Army.** This important and interesting historical incident occurred on the 3d of July, under a noble tree by the edge of Cambridge Common. The tree stands to this day, and is known as "The Washington Elm." Generals Lee, Schuyler, Ward, and Putnam were made Washington's chief military assistants. His first work was the thorough organization and discipline of the army, which up to this time was in rather a sorry condition as respects every thing except spirit.

**1775. An Invasion of Canada.** In the latter months of this same year an attempt was made to wrest Canada from the British. An army commanded by General Montgomery, an Irishman, took Montreal, and then, effecting a junction with a second force which General Arnold had led in the same direction, made an attack on Quebec. This last ended in failure, Montgomery perishing, and Arnold being wounded, in the assault. The Americans finally withdrew from the province, leaving it in possession of the British.

**1776. The British evacuated Boston** on the 17th of March, over 1000 Americans who were loyal to the King going with them. Yet  
*1711-1776. David Hume.*



England had not abandoned the contest, but was preparing to prosecute it more energetically than ever.

**1776. A Movement for Independence.** On the 7th of June, Richard Henry Lee of Virginia introduced these resolutions in Congress : —

“ That these united colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States ; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown ; and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is and ought to be totally dissolved.

“ That it is expedient forthwith to take the most effectual measures for forming foreign alliances.

“ That a plan of confederation be prepared, and transmitted to the respective colonies for their consideration and approbation.”

These resolutions provoked a spirited and prolonged discussion, but led to the appointment of a committee to draft a more formal declaration in accordance with their tenor. This committee consisted of Thomas Jefferson of Virginia, John Adams of Massachusetts, Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania, Roger Sherman of Connecticut, and Robert R. Livingston of New York. The declaration prepared by this committee was written mostly by Jefferson.

**1776. The Declaration of Independence.** The paper itself was formally adopted by Congress on the 4th of July, 1776, and with virtual unanimity. [See Appendix.] Thus the thirteen colonies resolved themselves into The United States of America, and this is the event which we still celebrate annually in the “Fourth of July.” The place where Congress was assembled was the old State House in Philadelphia, now known as Independence Hall. Great rejoicings followed everywhere.

**1776-1782. The War of the Revolution.** The colonists having thus declared their independence, had now to fight for it, and make their declaration good. Seven years of fighting ensued. The young States put

1778. *Captain Cook discovers the Sandwich Islands.*

forth all their strength. The English hired Hessian troops from Germany in addition to their own. Prominent among their commanders were Lord Howe,

Lord Cornwallis, and General Burgoyne; while to the names of those American leaders who have been mentioned, with others such as Marion and Sumter, are to be added such as Lafayette, Kosciusko, De Kalb, Pulaski, and Steuben, foreigners of distinction who came over to help the colonists battle for their liberties. One of the most important fields of military operations was New Jersey, though the Carolinas witnessed a campaign,

1694-1778. *Voltaire.*

and there was fighting about the borders of Vermont and New York. The war was marked by the usual vicissitudes.

1712-1778. *Jean Jacques Rousseau.*

The Americans won victories of considerable consequence at Trenton, Prince-

ton, and Monmouth, N.J.; Bennington, Vt.; Saratoga and Stony Point, N.Y.; and Cowpens and Eutaw Springs, in the Carolinas. On the other hand they suffered disastrous defeats at Germantown, Pa., and at Camden and Clinton, S.C. At one time they were depressed by the treason of Benedict Arnold; at another they were elated by the nego-

1778. *Louis XVI. of France declares war against England in aid of the American colonies.*

tiation of a treaty with France. This latter measure was effected by Franklin and others, in 1778, and resulted in the acquisition of substantial aid by the young and struggling nation. One winter was spent by the army in great hard-

ship and suffering at Valley Forge, near Philadelphia. The campaign in the Carolinas was marked by great reverses. On the coast there were naval engagements, such as that memorable one in which Paul Jones, in the Bon-

homme Richard, took the British man-  
of-war Serapis. The beginning of the  
end came at Yorktown, Va., where, on  
the 19th of October, 1781, Lord Corn-  
wallis and his whole force of 7000 men surrendered to  
Washington. In the following year the British Gov-  
ernment determined on an abandonment of the contest.  
Preliminary articles of peace were agreed upon in No-  
vember, 1782; and a final treaty between the two coun-  
tries, by which Great Britain acknowledged the United  
States to be "free, sovereign, and independent," was  
signed September 3, 1783. The evacuation of New  
York, in November following, completed the removal of  
British troops from American soil. During the seven  
years of the Revolutionary War, Great Britain sent to  
America a total of about 112,000 land-troops, and 22,000  
seamen. The colonies raised in all, including over 50,000  
militia, about 280,000 men. But the actual forces engaged  
at any one time were comparatively very small; insignifi-  
cant by the side of those that fought some of the battles  
of the late Rebellion.

1780. *Lord  
George Gordon's  
Anti-Popery  
riots in London.*

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## VI.

### PERIOD OF NATIONAL GROWTH.

1783-1817.

**1783. Paying the Soldiers.** One of the first things  
Congress had to do, on the close of the  
Revolutionary War, was to appease the  
soldiers, who had been paid in paper-  
money that had become almost worth-

1783. *Treaty of  
Versailles;  
peace between  
Britain, France,  
and Spain.*

less, and were therefore in a state of great and just discontent. Almost a mutiny, in fact, broke out in the army

1785. *The celebrated affair of the "Diamond Necklace."*

because of dissatisfaction on this point and some others related to it, and only Washington's discreteness and decision quelled the trouble.

**1784. The Methodist Church.** Previously to this time Methodist preachers had travelled extensively through the country, but now Dr. Coke was sent over from England by Wesley, as superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, and formal organization followed.

**1785. The Episcopal Church.** The first organization of the Episcopal Church in the United States was effected in September of this year. Already however the Episcopalians of Connecticut had elected Rev. Dr. Seabury their bishop; who was duly consecrated in Scotland in 1784. Subsequently Rev. Drs. William White of Pennsylvania, and Samuel Provost of New York, were raised to the same office; and, following them, Rev. Dr. James Madison of Virginia, a relative of him who was afterward President Madison. The first General Convention met in 1789, and the revised Book of Common Prayer came into use in 1790.

**1785. John Adams** was this year appointed minister to Great Britain, — the first appointment to that position.

**1786. The Roman Catholic Church.** This may be accepted as the date of the founding of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States, for it was in this year that Rev. John Carroll, a native of Maryland, but educated in France, was appointed vicar-general by the Pope, and took up his official residence in Baltimore. This was at the instance of Benjamin Franklin, whom he

had previously accompanied on a political mission to Canada. Three years later Mr. Carroll was made the first Roman Catholic bishop in the country, and subsequently was raised to the archbishopric.

**1787. The Constitution.** The convention of States by which the present Constitution was framed, met this year in Philadelphia. The work occupied four months ; and, after a thorough discussion of the instrument in the several States, it was finally adopted by all of them, Rhode Island voting last, in 1790. The Constitution went into operation, however, when two-thirds of the States had voted in the affirmative. At this point the history of the United States of America properly begins. The framers of the constitution were as follows : —

1788. *First English settlements in Australia.*

GEORGE WASHINGTON, *President of the Convention and Deputy from Virginia.*

*From New Hampshire:* JOHN LANGDON, NICHOLAS GILMAN.

*From Massachusetts:* NATHANIEL GORHAM, RUFUS KING.

*From Connecticut:* WILLIAM SAMUEL JOHNSON, ROGER SHERMAN.

*From New York:* ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

*From New Jersey:* WILLIAM LIVINGSTON, DAVID BREARLEY, WILLIAM PATTERSON, JONATHAN DAYTON.

*From Pennsylvania:* BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, THOMAS MIFFLIN, ROBERT MORRIS, GEORGE CLYMER, THOMAS FITZSIMONS, JARED INGERSOLL, JAMES WILSON, GOUVERNEUR MORRIS.

*From Delaware:* GEORGE READ, GUNNING BEDFORD, Jr., JOHN DICKINSON, RICHARD BASSETT, JACOB BROOM.

*From Maryland:* JAMES MCHENRY, DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER, DANIEL CARROLL.

*From Virginia:* JOHN BLAIR, JAMES MADISON, Jr.

*From North Carolina:* WILLIAM BLOUNT, RICHARD DOBBS SPAIGHT, HUGH WILLIAMSON.

*From South Carolina:* JOHN RUTLEDGE, CHARLES COTESWORTH PINCKNEY, CHARLES PINCKNEY, PIERCE BUTLER.

*From Georgia:* WILLIAM FEW, ABRAHAM BALDWIN.

WILLIAM JACKSON, *Secretary.*

The thirteen original States, with the dates in which they severally adopted the constitution, were these : —

DELAWARE, 1787.	MARYLAND, 1788.
PENNSYLVANIA, 1787.	SOUTH CAROLINA, 1788.
NEW JERSEY, "	NEW HAMPSHIRE, "
GEORGIA, 1788.	VIRGINIA, "
CONNECTICUT, 1788.	NEW YORK, "
MASSACHUSETTS, 1788.	NORTH CAROLINA, 1789.
RHODE ISLAND, 1790.	

### I. WASHINGTON'S ADMINISTRATION.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, of Virginia, President: 1789-1797.

JOHN ADAMS, of Massachusetts, Vice-President: 1789-1797.

**1789.** Washington and Adams entered upon office April 30, New York City being the capital. Their administration witnessed a rapid and gratifying consolidation of the nation, and the inauguration of a sound system of finance, one of the features of which was a United States Bank. It

1788-1795. *Impeachment trial of Warren Hastings, Governor-General of India.*

1789-1792.

*French Revolution. Proclamation of a republic by the National Assembly.*

was also marked by a troublesome war with the Indians on the northwest frontier; by some impressions and effects of the French Revolution, and by the rise of two great political parties. These were first the Federalists, led by Washington, Adams, Hamilton, and Jay, who were satisfied with the organization of the government, and the turn which affairs were beginning to take; and, second, the Republicans, or Democrats as they were afterwards called, who, to a hearty sympathy with the French Revolutionists, joined a strong feeling in favor of State Rights. Among the leaders of the latter were Jefferson, Madison, and Samuel Adams. The Federalists would subordinate the States to the nation; the Republicans or Democrats, the nation to the States.

The Federalists were the conservatives, and looked with little favor on the movement in France against the monarchical idea; the Republican-Democrats were the radicals, and would have liked to help France on to success. On all these issues party spirit ran high.

**1791.** Vermont admitted to the Union: 14th State.

**1792.** Kentucky admitted to the Union: 15th State.

**1793.** Washington and Adams were inaugurated for a second term. John Hancock and Roger Sherman died this same year.

*1793. Executions of Louis XVI. and Marie Antoinette. Reign of Terror.*

**1794.** A treaty of commerce and navigation was concluded between the United States and Great Britain.

*1795. Mungo Park enters upon his African explorations.*

**1796.** Tennessee admitted to the Union: 16th State.

*1759-1796. Robert Burns.*

**1794-1825.** The Unitarian Controversy. These two dates — the first, that of Dr. Joseph Priestley's visit to this country; the second, that of the organization of the American Unitarian Association — may be taken as including the period of the so-called Unitarian Controversy, the chief parties to which were the Unitarian and Trinitarian Congregational Churches of New England. There was a fierce war in print, some litigation as respects church property, and a final consolidation of the Unitarians as a distinct religious body.

*1729-1797. Edmund Burke. 1796-1815. Wars of Napoleon.*

## II. ADAMS'S ADMINISTRATION.

JOHN ADAMS, of Massachusetts, President: 1797-1801.

THOMAS JEFFERSON, of Virginia, Vice-President: 1797-1801.

This administration was distinguished by the existence of very critical relations with France, the adjustment of which was barely accomplished without war.

**1797. Peace Commissioners to France.** C. C. Pinckney, Elbridge Gerry, and John Marshall were sent by the administration to France to negotiate a settlement of the difficulties between the two countries. Instead of a courteous hearing, they got only an intimation that, unless a considerable sum of money were forthcoming, war might be the result. "War be it, then," said Pinckney: "millions for defence, but not one cent for tribute." Such was the noble and constant spirit of the fathers. Hostilities actually began with a naval combat in the West Indies; but in 1800, with the accession of Napoleon Bonaparte to power in France, peace was restored.

**1799. George Washington died** at Mount Vernon, December 14, aged 67: "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

**1800. The seat of Government** was removed from New York to Washington. A census showed a national population of something over 5,000,000.

### III. JEFFERSON'S ADMINISTRATION.

THOMAS JEFFERSON, of Virginia, President: 1801-1809.

AARON BURR, of New Jersey, Vice-President: 1801-1805.

GEORGE CLINTON, of New York, Vice-President: 1805-1809.

**1801. The accession of Mr. Jefferson**, it must be noticed, betokened a change of political parties. Washington and Adams were both Federalists, Jefferson was a Democrat. His administration was very vigorous, and made strong friends and bitter enemies.

**1802. Ohio** admitted to the Union: 17th State.

**1803. The Louisiana Purchase.** At this time the name Louisiana applied to the whole immense territory enclosed by the Mississippi River, the Pacific Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico, and the British Possessions on the north.



This entire tract, comprising nearly 900,000 square miles, was now bought of France for \$15,000,000. The national area was thereby more than doubled. The President at once sent an expedition to explore the new acquisition. The party, headed by Captains Lewis and Clark, traversed the continent, and brought back a wonderful story of observation and adventure. This is known as the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

**1804. War against the Pirates.** American commerce had suffered heavily from pirates on the Barbary coast. A naval expedition was sent to make reprisal, and Tripoli was bombarded. It was in this naval campaign that the young Lieutenant Decatur so distinguished himself.

*1804. Napoleon proclaimed Emperor of the French.*

**1805. Burr and Hamilton.** Ex-Vice-President Burr, attributing to Alexander Hamilton some of the political misfortunes which were beginning to attend him, challenged him to a duel. In this duel Hamilton was killed, and Burr was obliged to take himself out of the way, to escape the consequences which an indignant people were ready to inflict upon him. Shortly after he was suspected of treasonable designs for the formation of an independent domain in the West; but, though for lack of evidence he was formally acquitted of the charge, he never recovered from the stigma which these two incidents in his career fixed upon him.

**1807. The Embargo.** The indignities and injuries to which American commerce had been subjected, by reason of war between France and Great Britain, induced Congress, at the President's instance, to issue an embargo, which detained all vessels in American ports,

*1807. Abolition of the slave-trade throughout the British dominions.*

1808-1814. *The Peninsular War: England aiding Spain against the French.* and required all American vessels then away to return home. This measure, which practically put an end to commerce, and so occasioned an almost complete prostration of business, was one of the most unpopular acts of Jefferson's Administration. The embargo was repealed in 1809.

**1807. Robert Fulton's steam-boat,** the Clermont, was launched this year, and made its first voyage upon the Hudson, at the rate of about five miles an hour.

**1807. The importation of slaves** into the United States from any foreign country was made illegal after this time by Act of Congress.

#### IV. MADISON'S ADMINISTRATION.

JAMES MADISON, of Virginia, President: 1809-1817.

GEORGE CLINTON, of New York, Vice-President: 1809-1813.

ELBRIDGE GERRY, of Massachusetts, Vice-President: 1813-1817.

**1810. Population** of the United States 7,300,000.

**1812. Louisiana** admitted to the Union: 18th State.

**1812. The War of 1812.** The chief feature of President Madison's administration was another war with England, known as the war of 1812, it being in that year that hostilities actually commenced. For several years

1812. *Napoleon's Campaign in Russia.* American commerce had suffered from British cruisers, by whom vessel after vessel was seized and confiscated. The

whole difficulty grew in some measure out of the mighty conflict then progressing between France and other European Powers, and there were not a few Americans who thought France was quite as much at fault for the injustice suffered by the young republic as England. War against England

was finally declared in June of this year. The President was authorized to raise an army of 75,000 men, under Major-General Henry Dearborn, as commander-in-chief. His lieutenants were Generals Wilkinson, Hampton, Hull, and Bloomfield. The principal fighting in this war between the land-forces, was along the Canada frontier, where the English had the Indians for their allies; but its distinguishing feature, perhaps, was its naval battles, of which there were several that have become famous. These were fought not only at sea, but on the Great Lakes. In one of them the American frigate *Constitution* captured the British frigate *Guerrière*. In another, on Lake Erie, Commodore O. H. Perry captured an entire British fleet of six vessels; a most memorable engagement.

**1814. Capture of the Capital.** In this the second year of the war occurred the most serious disaster which it brought to the American cause. A British force of 5000 men approached Washington by way of the Chesapeake, and, after a skirmish with the militia at Bladensburg, captured Washington, and burned the President's House, the Capitol, and other public buildings. A subsequent attack upon Baltimore was repulsed. At the close of the year a treaty of peace was signed at Ghent, John Quincy Adams, Henry Clay, and others acting in behalf of the United States.

**1814. The Hartford Convention.** The great opposition to the war, manifested by the Federalists, led to the holding of a New England representative convention, which met at Hartford, December 15, and continued in session twenty days with closed doors. George Cabot was President. This convention was suspected of treasonable designs, and a regiment of Kentucky troops was

1814. *Napoleon surrenders to the allies, and retires to Elba.*

sent to Hartford to watch it; but its final deliverances proved to be eminently patriotic, albeit offering a decided protest to some of the war-measures of the administration.

**1815. The Battle of New Orleans.** Though peace had been negotiated, the war was not over. While the news was on the way across the sea, a British force of 12,000 men attacked New Orleans. The city was defended

by 5000 men under General Andrew Jackson. The battle of New Orleans was fought on the 8th of January, and the result was a heavy defeat for the

British. It was the last battle of the war.

**1815. Pirates Again.** Soon after the termination of hostilities a naval force was despatched by the government to the Mediterranean to punish the Algerine pirates, and very successfully did it accomplish its work.

**1816-17. A National Bank.** In its session during these years Congress chartered a national bank at Philadelphia, with a capital of \$35,000,000.

**1816. Indiana** admitted to the Union: 19th State.

**1817. The American Colonization Society** was organized.

## VII.

### PERIOD OF SLAVERY AGITATION.

1817-1861.

#### V. MONROE'S ADMINISTRATION.

JAMES MONROE, of Virginia, President: 1817-1825.

DANIEL D. TOMPKINS, of New York, Vice-President: 1817-1825.

THE slavery agitation had its rise with Mr. Monroe's administration.

**1817. Mississippi** admitted to the Union: 20th State.

**1818.** Illinois admitted to the Union : 21st State.

**1819.** Alabama admitted to the Union : 22d State.

**1820.** Maine admitted to the Union : 23d State.

**1820.** Population of the United States 9,600,000.

**1820. The Missouri Compromise.** With the erection of each territory into a new State the contest between the friends and opponents of slavery deepened ; and over the admission of Missouri, in 1820, there was a prolonged and severe struggle. Even as early as this were to be heard the prophetic notes of the terrific conflict which finally ensued. Said Mr. Cobb of Georgia : " A fire has been kindled which all the waters of the ocean cannot put out, and which only seas of blood can extinguish." To which Mr. Tallmage of New York replied : " If civil war, which gentlemen so much threaten, must come, I can only say, let it come ! . . . If blood is necessary to extinguish any fire which I have assisted to kindle, while I regret the necessity I shall not hesitate to contribute my own." Missouri was finally admitted, but by a compromise between the two factions. The clause prohibiting slavery was stricken out of the bill, and a proviso introduced that henceforth no slavery should be tolerated north of latitude 36° 30'. This was the famous Missouri Compromise ; by which it was expected the slavery agitation would be ended.

**1821.** Missouri admitted to the Union : 24th State.

**1823. The Monroe Doctrine.** In his annual message this year President Monroe gave form and expression to a principle which became known as " the Monroe Doctrine," and has taken an important and permanent place in the policy of the country. It is this : " That the American Continents, by the free and independent position which they have assumed and maintained, are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future

colonization by any European power." This declaration grew out of the recognition by Congress of certain Spanish American republics, which had lately assumed their independence.

#### VI. ADAMS'S ADMINISTRATION.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, of Massachusetts, President: 1825-1829.  
JOHN C. CALHOUN, of South Carolina, Vice-President: 1825-1829.

A distinguishing feature of this administration was the march of what may be called internal improvements.

**1825. The Erie Canal.** The completion this year

1788-1824.

*Byron.*

of the Erie Canal imparted quite an impulse to the extension of this method of

inland navigation.

**1827. The first railroad** in the United States was built, leading from the granite quarries at Quincy, Mass., to tide-water, a distance of some three miles. The cars were drawn by horses.

**1826. Ex-Presidents John Adams and Jefferson** died on the same day of this semi-centennial year, and that day the Fourth of July: altogether a very remarkable coincidence.

**1828. The Tariff.** The Protectionists succeeded this year in the enactment of a high tariff, the operation of which consisted in the laying of a heavy tax upon foreign productions for the sake of encouraging home manufactures. Party spirit ran high on the question, and a new element was added to the political complications of the time. The fact that the North, by reason of its manufactures, was interested in protection, and that the South was as warmly interested in free trade, tended to widen the breach which the slavery agitation had already opened between the two sections of the country.

## VII. JACKSON'S ADMINISTRATION.

ANDREW JACKSON, of Tennessee, President: 1829-1837.

JOHN C. CALHOUN, of South Carolina, Vice-President: 1829-1831.

MARTIN VAN BUREN, of New York, Vice-President: 1833-1837.

Jackson's administration was one of great vigor, turbulence, and excitement; taking its complexion from the man himself, who was one of the most resolute, energetic, and remarkable of the long line who have filled this high office. The Whig party came into existence as the opposition to Jackson's administration.

**1830. Population** of the United States 12,800,000.

**1831. William Lloyd Garrison** established a weekly paper in Boston called the "Liberator." It was devoted to the advocacy of immediate and unconditional emancipation. This movement produced intense excitement at the South, and at the North led to the organization of the Abolitionists; with the total result of so alarming Congress that it passed a law excluding anti-slavery publications from the mails.

**1832. Webster's Reply to Hayne.** In this year the contest in Congress over the tariff, and the issues which it raised, led to the memorable debate between Robert Y. Hayne, of South Carolina, and Daniel Webster, of Massachusetts. Hayne propounded extreme State-rights doctrine, and Webster in his reply used those now famous words, "Liberty and Union, now and for ever, one and inseparable!"

**1832. Nullification.** The high tariff proved so obnoxious to the South, that South Carolina actually attempted resistance and threatened secession. The particular champion of this

1771-1832. *Walter Scott.*

1749-1832.

*Goethe.*1833. *Santa**Anna elected**President of**Mexico.*1833. *Slavery**abolished**throughout the**British domin-**ions. Reign of**William IV.*

theory that a State had a right to nullify an act of Congress was Mr. Calhoun himself, who had resigned his Vice-Presidency to take a seat as Senator from his native State. South Carolina armed, and prepared to execute her threat. President Jackson ordered a military and naval force to Charleston to maintain the Federal authority; accompanying this measure with a procla-

mation warning the disaffected State that the laws against treason would be rigidly enforced. The vigorous action of the President had its effect, and put an end to the incipient rebellion.

**1832. The National Bank.** President Jackson's opposition to the United States Bank was another marked feature of his policy. Congress having refused to adopt his recommendation that the public funds be removed from the bank, he directed their removal on his own responsibility. His course in this affair strengthened the opposition he had already encountered. A financial panic was one of the results of the disturbance.

**1835. The Seminole War.** A war broke out this year with the Indians in Florida, which continued intermittently for about twenty years, greatly to the discomfort of the settlers of that territory, but finally to the subjection of the Indians and their removal west of the Mississippi.

1837. *Acces-**sion of Queen**Victoria to the**British throne.*

**1836. Arkansas** admitted to the Union: 25th State.

**1837. Michigan** admitted to the Union: 26th State.



## VIII. VAN BUREN'S ADMINISTRATION.

MARTIN VAN BUREN, of New York, President: 1837-1841.

RICHARD M. JOHNSON, of Kentucky, Vice-President: 1837-1841.

The period of President Van Buren's administration was one of great financial stringency and disaster; to the remedy of which difficulties the attention of the government was chiefly devoted.

**1837. The Financial Crisis.** Almost the first act of President Van Buren was to summon in September an extra session of Congress to concert measures for the financial relief of the country, which had been overtaken by a commercial storm of unparalleled severity. Business was everywhere at a stand-still; bankruptcy had become a common lot; and by midsummer the banks universally had suspended specie payments. The President made definite recommendations to Congress for the cure of existing evils, but they were received with only partial favor.

**1837. Neutrality on the Canada Border.** An insurrection of Canadians against the authority of Great Britain tempted some Americans living near the border to take sides against the latter in the attempt to suppress it. This movement was promptly put down by the President, who backed up a manly and just proclamation of neutrality by sending a military force under General Scott to the scene of the disorder.

**1837. Michigan** admitted to the Union: 26th State.

**1839. Hints of Disunion.** The continued agitation of the slavery question provoked Mr. Rhett of South Carolina to propose a declaration by Congress that it was expedient that the Union be dissolved. Peace was preserved, for the time being only, by the adoption of a rule in the House that henceforth no petitions on the subject of

slavery should be received. This rule continued in force some ten years.

**1839, 1840. The Government and the Banks.** The closing part of President Van Buren's administration was marked by the carrying through Congress of a favorite measure of his for the separation of the banks of the country from government connection, and for the receipt and payment of gold and silver exclusively in all public transactions.

1840. *Louis Napoleon makes a revolutionary demonstration in France; is arrested, and sentenced to imprisonment for life at Ham.*

**1840. The Hard Cider Campaign.** The opposition awakened by President Van Buren's financial policy and other measures furnished the occasion, in connection with the election of his successor, of one of the most exciting and memorable political struggles in the history of the country. Mr. Van Buren was renominated by the Democrats. Against him the Whigs placed General William Henry Harrison; who was a man of great popularity throughout the Interior, by reason not only of his personal character, but of his services on the northwest frontier in the War of 1812. Popular feeling entered into the canvass to an uncommon degree; songs, watchwords, and emblems abounded; and the enthusiasm of partisans rose to the highest pitch. As a result General Harrison was elected by 234 votes out of the 294 thrown by the electoral college.

**1840. Population of the United States 17,000,000.**

## IX. HARRISON'S ADMINISTRATION.

WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON, of Ohio, President: March 4 — April 4, 1841.

JOHN TYLER, of Virginia, Vice-President: March 4 — April 4, 1841.

This brevity of it was the distinguishing mark of President Harrison's administration. The President died at

the end of just a month from his inauguration, and before it had been possible for him to adopt any distinctive policy or to achieve any measures of importance. His previous career had earned for him great popularity, and the nation was plunged into mourning by his death. The campaign which had preceded his election to the Presidency was one of great excitement, to which fact, together with the fatigue incident to his inauguration, was attributed the illness which occasioned his death.

## X. TYLER'S ADMINISTRATION.

JOHN TYLER, of Virginia, President: April 4, 1841-1845.

The two characteristics of President Tyler's administration were, first, the President's alleged betrayal of the political party which had elected him to office, and, second, the annexation of Texas.

**1842. The National Bank again.** The efforts of the Whig Congress to re-establish a national bank were persistently set at nought by the vetoes of the President, who was accordingly charged with having gone over to the Democrats.

**1842. The Ashburton Treaty.** A dispute between the United States and Great Britain over the north-eastern boundaries was amicably settled by means of a treaty negotiated by Daniel Webster, then Secretary of State, acting for the United States, and Lord Ashburton on the part of Great Britain.

**1844. The Telegraph.** The news of Mr. Polk's election to the Presidency was the first despatch ever sent by telegraph in the United States. This was over a wire

1843. *Independence of the Sandwich Islands recognized by England and France.*

1844. *Daniel O'Connell tried at Dublin for sedition, and sen-*

*tenced to a year's imprisonment.* erected by Professor S. F. B. Morse between Baltimore and Washington.

**1845. Florida** admitted to the Union : 27th State.

**1845. The Annexation of Texas.** Previous to this time Texas, which had been a field of much contention between the Spaniards and the French, had assumed the position of an independent State, and the question of annexing it to the United

*1845. Sir John Franklin sails on an Arctic Expedition from which he never returns.*

States furnished occasion for yet more controversy between the pro-slavery and anti-slavery parties. The South urged the measure, as Mr. Calhoun said : "to uphold the interests of slavery, extend its influence, and secure its permanent duration." On this very account the North as zealously resisted it.

*1798-1845.*

*Thomas Hood.* Texas was finally admitted in the early months of 1845, making the 28th State. The step was one of the causes of the Mexican War.

## XI. POLK'S ADMINISTRATION.

JAMES K. POLK, of Tennessee, President : 1845-1849.

GEORGE M. DALLAS, of Pennsylvania, Vice-President : 1845-1849.

The Mexican War and the settlement of California were the principal events in the national history during this administration.

**1846. Iowa** admitted to the Union : 29th State.

**1846. The Oregon Treaty.** Up to this time Great Britain had claimed Oregon as one of her possessions, but the acquisition of it by the United States was a declared purpose of Polk's administration. This year a treaty was concluded between the two Powers whereby the parallel of 49° was agreed upon as the southern boundary of British Possessions in the northwest.

**1846. The Wilmot Proviso.** This was the name given to a measure proposed in Congress by David Wilmot, representative from Pennsylvania, in connection with steps taken to ensure peace with Mexico. It was to this effect, namely, that in case of the acquisition of any new territory by treaty with Mexico, "neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall ever exist in any part of said territory, except for crime, whereof the party shall first be duly convicted." This Wilmot Proviso passed the House, but not the Senate, and is one of the mile-stones by which the progress of anti-slavery sentiment is to be noted.

**1846-1848. The Mexican War.** The annexation of Texas to the United States had given rise to various disputes with Mexico, as to boundaries and border regions, and in April a conflict of arms took place between Mexican and United States troops on the Rio Grande. War was at once declared by the President as "existing by the act of Mexico," and Congress promptly voted the supplies with which to promote it. General Zachary Taylor, who first had been in the field, was succeeded by General Winfield Scott as commander-in-chief, and a vigorous campaign was entered upon. The troops were chiefly furnished by States in the South and Southwest. Battles were fought at Palo Alto, Monterey, Buena Vista, Vera Cruz, Cherubusco, Molino del Rey, and other points, and finally before the City of Mexico, which surrendered to General Scott, September 14, 1847. The war was formally termi-

1846. *Louis Napoleon escapes from the fortress of Ham.*

1780-1847. *Thomas Chalmers.*

1848. *French Revolution. Louis Philippe abdicates. Republic proclaimed. Louis Napoleon, member of the National Assembly, elected President of the Republic.*

1767-1849. *Maria Edgeworth.*

nated by a treaty of peace negotiated at Gaudalupe Hidalgo, in February, 1848.\* By this treaty the Rio Grande was determined as the boundary between Mexico and the United States, and New Mexico and California were ceded by the former to the latter. This war proved a training school for many young officers of the army who afterwards distinguished themselves in the war of the Rebellion.

**1847. The Mormons.** For some years the sect known as Mormons had been gathering at Nauvoo, Illinois. Their principles and practices becoming obnoxious to the public, they were now driven out, partly by legislative decree, and partly by force of arms, and removed to Utah under the lead of Brigham Young. Salt Lake City was founded, and a year or two later a State was organized under the name of Deseret.

**1848. The California Gold Fever.** The cession to the United States of the territory of California was speedily followed by the discovery of gold therein. This produced intense excitement throughout the country, and attracted thousands of adventurers to that as yet almost unknown region.

**1848. Wisconsin** admitted to the Union : 30th State.

**1848. The Free-Soil Party.** The agitation which grew out of the famous Wilmot Proviso led this year to measures for the organization of a new political party, pledged to the principle of "a free soil for a free people ;" whence its name. The Free-Soilers held a convention at Buffalo in August, and nominated Martin Van Buren for the Presidency, and Charles Francis Adams for the Vice-Presidency. The new party drew to itself from both

\* The quill pen with which President Polk signed the ratification of this treaty has lately been presented by Mrs. Polk to the Tennessee Historical Society.

Whigs and Democrats those who were in sympathy with anti-slavery ideas, and was the germ of the present Republican party.

## XII. TAYLOR'S ADMINISTRATION.

ZACHARY TAYLOR of Louisiana, President : 1849-1850.

MILLARD FILLMORE of New York, Vice-President : 1849-50.

President Taylor died after having been in office but a little over a year, but his brief administration was marked by a fiercer struggle than ever over the slavery question, and by the arrangement of certain measures of compromise, which were expected to heal the breach between the North and South, but failed to do so.

**1849. The Constitution of California.** California having suddenly gathered to itself a large population, steps were taken by its citizens for the erection of the Territory into a State. To that end a constitution was framed and adopted. That constitution prohibited slavery.

**1850. California** was admitted this year to the Union as a free State (31st State) ; but only after a bitter struggle in Congress, and by means of a compromise, which was effected mainly through the efforts

of Henry Clay. The chief features of this compromise were the granting of territorial governments to Utah and New Mexico, the question of slavery therein to be left for the inhabitants to decide ; the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia ; and the enactment of a stringent law for the return to their owners of fugitive slaves. There was a strong opposition to this compromise, led by such members of Congress as Charles Sumner and John P. Hale ; but Mr. Webster and other influential Northern men supported it, and it finally carried the day.

**1850.** President Taylor died July 9, being succeeded in office by Vice-President Fillmore.

**1850.** Population of the United States 23,000,000.

### XIII. FILLMORE'S ADMINISTRATION.

MILLARD FILLMORE, of New York, President: 1850-1853.

Mr. Fillmore's administration is to be chiefly remembered for the support it gave to the Fugitive Slave Law, and kindred measures of attempted compromise between freedom and slavery.

**1850. The Fugitive Slave Law.** This law received President Fillmore's signature in September, and with it the other provisions of the Clay compromise measures went into effect. The law was odious to a large proportion of Northern people, and no little difficulty was met with in executing it in some parts of the country. The publication of Mrs. Stowe's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" occurred shortly after this; a work of powerful influence in deepening the already growing opposition to slavery.

**1850. The Bulwer-Clayton Treaty.** This was a treaty negotiated in Washington between Baron Henry L. E. Bulwer, British minister resident, and John M. Clayton, Secretary of State under President Taylor, having for its object the settlement of certain rights and privileges relating to canal communication across Central America.

1851. *The "Coup d'Etat."* Louis Napoleon mounts to the place of supreme power in France.

1775-1851. Turner, English landscape painter.

**1851. Cuba and the Filibusters.** General Lopez led a band of filibusters from New Orleans to Cuba, their object being to aid the Cubans in the revolutionary work of throwing off the yoke of Spain. The expedition was a failure, as one or two previous ones had been, and



Lopez and a number of his followers paid for their temerity with their lives.

**1851.** Louis Kossuth visited the United States. *1851. Opening of the Great Exhibition, London.*

**1852.** The Presidential campaign this year was an interesting and exciting one. Against Pierce and King, the Democratic candidates for the Presidency and Vice-Presidency, were pitted General Scott and William R. Graham, the candidates of the Whigs; while Daniel Webster was strongly urged by his friends for the first place on the latter ticket. *1852. Louis Napoleon declared Emperor of France, under the title of Napoleon III.*

Mr. Webster died, however, in October, before the election took place. The Free-Soilers nominated John P. Hale, and George W. Julian. The popular vote at the election in November shows the comparative strength of the three parties at this important and interesting juncture:—

Pierce and King . . . . .	1,587,256.
Scott and Graham . . . . .	1,384,577.
Hale and Julian . . . . .	157,296.

#### XIV. PIERCE'S ADMINISTRATION.

FRANKLIN PIERCE, of New Hampshire, President: 1853-1857.  
WILLIAM R. KING, of Alabama, Vice-President: 1853-1857.

Pierce's administration came into power pledged to the suppression by all possible means of any renewal of slavery agitation. This was its distinguishing policy.

**1853.** The Gadsden Purchase. Difficulties which had arisen with Mexico over boundary questions were happily settled this year by James Gadsden, United States Minister to Mexico. *1853. Santa Anna chosen Dictator of Mexico.*  
One of the features of the treaty which he negotiated was the purchase of the tract of country corresponding to the *1853-1856. Crimean War.*  
present Territory of Arizona for \$10,000,000.

**1853. A Pacific Railroad.** Jefferson Davis, Secretary of War, sent out expeditions to explore various routes proposed for a railroad from the Interior to the Pacific.

**1854. The Kansas-Nebraska Bill.** Through the efforts of Stephen A. Douglas, United States Senator from Illinois, Congress passed in May a bill for the admission of the new States of Kansas and Nebraska. By the terms of this bill, the Missouri Compromise of 1820, which had prohibited slavery north of lat.  $36^{\circ} 30'$ , was repealed, and the question of slavery or freedom in the proposed States was left to the people of the same to decide for themselves. This measure produced great indignation at the North, vastly strengthened the hands of the anti-slavery party, and led to a vigorous struggle between the friends of freedom and the champions of slavery for the possession of the government of the new States. "Popular Sovereignty" was our war-cry of the hour, and "Border Ruffianism" one of its dark features. The settlers who poured into Kansas came from both slave States and free. Each party organized a government and framed a constitution. There were collisions, massacres, and pillaging. At Ossawatimie, John Brown fought quite a little battle with invaders from Missouri. Finally the free-State men carried the day.

**1854. A Treaty with Japan.** Commodore Matthew C. Perry, commanding a United States Squadron, negotiated a treaty with Japan by which, almost for the first time in history, ports of that country were thrown open to commerce.

**1856. "Know-Nothingism."** A political party came into existence this year, pledged to an opposition of foreign, especially Roman Catholic, influence.

**1856. Speaker Banks.** A memorable incident of the political conflict now in progress was the election of Hon. N. P. Banks of Massachusetts, formerly a Democrat, as Speaker of the national House of Representatives. The election was effected on the 133d ballot, after a contest of over two months, and was an important victory for the anti-slavery party.

**1856. The Assault on Sumner.** On the 22d of May, Charles Sumner, United States Senator from Massachusetts, was assaulted in his seat by Preston S. Brooks, a member of the House of Representatives from South Carolina. The occasion of the assault was a powerful speech delivered by Mr. Sumner shortly before upon "The Crime Against Kansas," in the course of which he had denounced slavery, its champions and its measures, in severe terms. With a stout cane Brooks inflicted terrible injuries upon the person of his victim; from the effects of which indeed the latter never fully recovered.

**1856. The Fremont Campaign.** Three sets of candidates were again in the field this fall for the Presidential campaign. The Democrats nominated James Buchanan and John C. Breckenridge; the American or "Know-Nothing" party, Ex-President Fillmore and Andrew J. Donnelson; and the Republicans, as the anti-slavery party had come to be called, John C. Fremont and William L. Dayton. The popular vote which followed shows the change which three years had witnessed in the relative strength of the leading political parties of the country:—

Buchanan and Breckenridge . . . . .	1,838,169.
Fremont and Dayton . . . . .	1,341,264.
Fillmore and Donnelson . . . . .	874,534.

## XV. BUCHANAN'S ADMINISTRATION.

JAMES BUCHANAN, of Pennsylvania, President: 1857-1861.  
 JOHN C. BRECKENRIDGE, of Kentucky, Vice-President: 1857-1861.

President Buchanan's administration was marked by the culmination of the slavery controversy and the incipient stages of the Rebellion. It was during this administration that Chief Justice Taney delivered the famous "Dred Scott Decision," to the effect that negroes had "no rights that white men were bound to respect."

**1857-8. A constitution for Kansas** formed at 1857. *Sepoy Re-* Lecompton led to a new and bitter  
*bellion in India.* conflict in Congress, but the bill based  
 1803-1857. *Douglas* thereupon was finally passed. This was  
*las Ferrol.* known as the Lecompton bill and was  
 approved by the President as a peace measure, but was  
 opposed by the Republicans and a considerable fraction of  
 1804-1857. *Europe* the Democrats as being virtually in the  
*gene Sue.* interests of slavery.

**1858. Minnesota** admitted to the Union: 32d State. Telegraphic communication was temporarily established between America and England by means of the Atlantic cable.

1859. *Franco-Austrian War.* **1859. Oregon** admitted to the Union: 33d State.

**1859. John Brown and Harper's Ferry.** In October, John Brown, who had already appeared in the course of the troubles in Kansas, seized the United States Arsenal at Harper's Ferry, as a first step in an attempt to arm and free the slaves. He had but a handful of men at his command, and was speedily overpowered.

Half of his party were killed. Brown himself was tried by a Virginia Court and hanged for treason in December following. This event created an intense excitement throughout the country. At the South it was regarded as a sign of a Northern purpose to liberate the slaves.

**1860. Lincoln's Election.** The Presidential campaign of this year, which resulted in the election of Abraham Lincoln, was one of intense activity, and precipitated the stirring events of the Rebellion. Four sets of candidates were in the field, for whom the popular vote was as follows : —

Lincoln and Hamlin, (Rep.) . . . . .	1,857,610.
Douglas and Johnson, (Dem.) . . . . .	1,365,976.
Breckenridge and Lane, (Pro-Slav. Dem.) . . . . .	847,952.
Bell and Everett, (Constitutional Union) . . . . .	590,631.

**1860. Secession.** Upon the election of Mr. Lincoln the Southern States at once proceeded to carry out their threats of secession. South Carolina took the lead, passing the ordinance of secession in December. This action was rapidly followed in turn by Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas.

**1860. Population** of the United States 31,400,000.

## VIII.

### PERIOD OF THE REBELLION.

1861-1865.

**1861. The Beginning of the War.** The secession of the Southern States was followed by a seizure on their part of forts, arsenals, and other United States property within

their reach, together with large quantities of arms, ammunition, and other military stores, much of which had previously been removed from the North.

*January 29.* **Kansas** admitted to the Union under the Wyandotte (anti-slavery) constitution : 34th State.

*February 4.* **Organization of the Southern Confederacy.** Delegates from the seceding States met in convention at Montgomery, Ala., and formed a provisional government under the style of Confederate States of America. Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi, Secretary of War under President Pierce, was afterward chosen President, and Alexander H. Stephens, of Georgia, Vice-President.

*February 23.* **Abraham Lincoln**, President-elect of the United States, reached Washington from the West in safety, notwithstanding fears of a plot to assassinate him while passing through Baltimore.

## XVI. LINCOLN'S ADMINISTRATION.

**ABRAHAM LINCOLN**, of Illinois, President : 1861 — April 15, 1865.  
**HANNIBAL HAMLIN**, of Maine, Vice-President : 1861 — March 4, 1865.

**ANDREW JOHNSON**, of Tennessee, Vice-President : March 4, 1865 — April 15, 1865.

Lincoln's administration was devoted wholly to the putting down of the Rebellion, and will be for ever memorable as having, in connection with that stupendous work, effected the abolition of American slavery.

*March 13.* **Overtures for peaceful Separation.** Commissioners Forsyth and Crawford, on the part of the government of the seceding States, attempted to open negotiations with the United States government looking to a peaceful adjustment of questions growing out of the proposed separation ; but the Secretary of State, Mr.

Seward, by direction of the President, declined to entertain any such proposition from such a source.

*April 12th.* **Fort Sumter.** General Beauregard, commanding Confederate troops, opened fire on Fort Sumter, in Charleston harbor, garrisoned by Major Anderson, U. S. A., with a small force. The bombardment lasted two days, and ended in the surrender of the fort. This commencement of actual hostilities aroused the entire North and united almost all hearts in the determination to protect the integrity of the Union.

*April 15th.* **President Lincoln** issued his first proclamation, calling for 75,000 militia for a three months' service. Such was the estimate of the strength of the Rebellion, and of the time that would be required to quell it.

*April 19th.* **The Sixth Massachusetts Regiment**, passing through Baltimore on its way to Washington, was attacked by a mob in the streets. Three soldiers were killed, and the shots fired in return killed one and wounded several of the assailants. This, it is to be noted, was the anniversary of the battle of Lexington and Concord.

*May 3d.* The President called for 42,000 three years' volunteers. — *May 4th.* General George B. McClellan took command of the Department of the Ohio. — *May 18th.* General Benjamin F. Butler took command of the Department of Virginia, with headquarters at Fortress Monroe. — *May 27th.* The passage of United States troops across the Potomac to take possession of the territory on its south side, was marked by the shooting of Colonel Ellsworth, commander of one of the regiments, in one of the hotels of Alexandria, which he had entered to pull down a rebel flag. — *June 10th.* Battle of Big Bethel. — *July 4th.* Congress assembled in extra session at the call of the President, and voted ample supplies for the work of suppressing the Rebellion.

*July 21st.* **Battle of Bull Run.** General McDowell, commanding a Union force of less than 30,000 men, encountered a slightly smaller Confederate force, under Generals Beauregard and Johnston, on the banks of a small stream in N. E. Virginia, about twenty-five miles from Washington. The result of the battle which ensued was a defeat of the Union army, which, panic-stricken, fled in confusion back towards Washington. This was the first serious engagement of the war, and its effect was as disheartening to the North as it was stimulating to the South.

*October 21st.* **Battle of Ball's Bluff.** — *October 31st.* General Scott was relieved from command of the Union army, and succeeded by General McClellan, who had somewhat distinguished himself in a short campaign in Western Virginia. — *November 8th.* Mason and Slidell, commissioners of the Confederate States to foreign powers, were taken from the British steamer *Trent*, by the United States steamer *San Jacinto*, Captain Wilkes; an act which was quickly resented by England, and manfully repudiated by our own government.

**1862.** *Jan. 11.* Edwin M. Stanton superseded Simon Cameron as Secretary of War. — *Feb. 6.* Fort Henry, on the Tennessee River, surrendered to Commodore Foote, U. S. N. — *Feb. 8.* General Burnside, commanding a Union expedition, captured Roanoke Island. — *Feb. 16.* Fort Donelson followed Fort Henry, General Grant demanding

its "unconditional surrender." — *March 9.* The unique and since famous naval battle between the *Merrimac* and the *Monitor* was fought in Hampton Roads.

— *March 11.* General McClellan took command of the Army of the Potomac. — *March 14.* General Burnside captured Newbern, North Carolina. — *April 6.* Battle of



Shiloh, or Pittsburg Landing, Tennessee. — *April 22.* Surrender of New Orleans to Commodore Farragut.

*June 26.* **Battles before Richmond.** The Army of the Potomac, having previously been transferred to Fortress Monroe, and thence attempted a movement upon the capital of the Confederacy from the south-east, finally entered on the series of bloody, unsuccessful, and disastrous engagements on the peninsular between the York and the James Rivers, known as the Seven Days' Battle before Richmond. The result was an entire failure, and a withdrawal of the army.

*Sept. 17.* **Battle of Antietam.** Encouraged by their successes on the peninsular, the Confederates, led by General Lee, crossed the Potomac into Maryland, captured Harper's Ferry and Frederick City, and 1862. *The French in Mexico declare war against President Juarez.* The Union Army of the Potomac in battle at Antietam, which proved one of the hardest fought engagements of the war. Lee was defeated, but McClellan failed to follow up his victory, and the Confederates succeeded in withdrawing across the Potomac.

*Sept. 22.* **Emancipation.** President Lincoln, taking advantage of the elation produced at the North by this success, issued a proclamation declaring that all slaves in States or parts of States still in rebellion by January 1, 1863, should then be free.

*Dec. 13.* **Battle of Fredericksburg.** The Army of the Potomac, General Burnside having succeeded to the command, again set out from its encampments in Virginia below Washington for Richmond, but was given battle by the Confederates at Fredericksburg, on the south bank of the Rappahannock, and defeated with serious losses.

*Dec. 31.* **Battle of Murfreesboro, or Stone River.**

**1863. Jan. 1.** The President issued the formal Proclamation of Emancipation.

1811-1863.

*Thackeray.*

1863. *Prince Alfred of England declared King of Greece, but not permitted by the British Government to accept the crown.*

**May 3. Battle of Chancellorsville.**

General Hooker, having succeeded to the command of the Army of the Potomac, attempted another movement upon Richmond. Crossing the Rappahannock at two points, he soon encountered Lee's army, and the battle ensued known as that of Chancellorsville. Hooker was defeated, and his army returned disheartened to its old quarters.

**July 1. Battle of Gettysburg.** Again the Confederate army in Virginia attempted the invasion of the North. This time Lee advanced into Pennsylvania, and the most memorable battle of the war was fought at Gettysburg, resulting in a decisive Union victory. General Meade was in command of the Northern army, having succeeded General Hooker.

**July 4. Vicksburg.** A brilliant campaign in the South-west, conducted by General Grant, culminated in the surrender of Vicksburg. These two *burgs*, Gettysburg and Vicksburg, constituted the high-water mark of the Rebellion. From this point the tide turned, and the Union armies closed slowly but steadily in upon the Confederacy.

**July 8.** Port Hudson surrendered to General Banks. — **August 20.** Guerillas under Quantrel destroyed the town of Lawrence, Kansas. — **September 19.** Battle of Chickamauga.

**November.** West Virginia admitted to the Union: 35th State.

1864. *The Austrian Archduke*

**1864. March 8.** General Grant was commissioned Lieutenant-General of the

armies of the United States. — *May 3.* *Maximilian accepts the throne of Mexico, under the auspices of France.* General Grant, at the head of the Army of the Potomac crossed the Rapidan, headed for Richmond. This was the

beginning of that most memorable campaign, which ended in the capture of the capital of the Confederacy, the surrender of Lee's army, and the end of the war. — *May — September.* General Sherman's campaign in Georgia, resulting in the surrender of Atlanta. — *September — October.* General Sheridan's exploits in the Shenandoah Valley.

*November 8.* **President Lincoln** re-elected for a second term.

*November 16.* **General Sherman** began his "march to the sea," which resulted in the capture of Savannah, December 21.

**Nevada** admitted to the Union : 36th State.

**1865.** *January 16.* Capture of Fort Fisher. — *Feb. 18.* Charleston, South Carolina, entered by General Gillmore. — *March 17.* The Confederate Congress adjourned *sine die*. — *April 2.* General Lee's lines around Petersburg gave way before General Grant. — *April 3.* Capture of Richmond. — *April 9.* General Lee formally surrendered to General Grant at Appomattox Court House.

*April 14-15.* **Assassination of President Lincoln.** On the evening of the 14th the President attended Ford's Theatre, Washington, and was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth, who shot him with a pistol presented close to his head from behind, as he sat in his private box. Mr. Lincoln's consciousness immediately left him, and he died the following morning in a private house across the street, whither he had been removed. This assassination was part of a plot for the extermination

of all the chief officers of the civil government, Secretary Seward being also the object of a murderous assault. Eight of the conspirators were arrested, tried, and variously punished.

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## IX.

### THE NEW ERA.

#### XVII. JOHNSON'S ADMINISTRATION.

ANDREW JOHNSON, of Tennessee, President: April 15, 1865-1869.

**On the death of Mr. Lincoln**, Vice-President Johnson succeeded to the Presidency. The war being virtually at an end, the chief work which fell to the new administration was that of reconstruction. President Johnson's policy as respected this work led to a serious conflict with Congress, and for this the period is to be mainly remembered.

*April 17.* **President Johnson** made a speech in which he was understood to announce a rigorous policy toward the leaders of the Rebellion. — *April 26.* General Johnston surrendered to General Sherman. — *May 10.* Jefferson Davis captured. — *May 14.* The President issued a proclamation granting a conditional amnesty to all persons engaged in the late Rebellion, with the exception of fourteen specified classes. — On the assembling of Congress in December, great hostility was developed to the reconstruction policy of the President, and a joint committee of fifteen was appointed to have charge of all questions concerning the return of the lately rebellious States.

**1866.** *February 22.* In a speech before the White House the President planted himself in open hostility to Congress.—*April 2.* The President issued a proclamation declaring the Rebellion at an end.—*June 3.* Fenian invasion of Canada.—*July.* Telegraphic communication permanently restored between America and England.—*December.* By act of Congress the right of suffrage without distinction of color was conferred in the District of Columbia, and the granting of the same right made a condition of the admission of new Territories. These measures were strenuously opposed by the President.

*1866. War between Prussia and Austria.*  
*1866-1867. Garibaldi heads a movement upon Rome.*

**1867.** *February.* **Nebraska** admitted to the Union: 37th State.—*March 2.* In spite of the President's veto, Congress passed an act creating five military districts out of ten of the late rebellious States, with military governments for each. The appointment by the President of commanders for these districts was followed by a widening of the breach between him and Congress.—*August 12.* Secretary Stanton was suspended from office, and General Grant appointed Secretary of War. Congress subsequently refusing to sanction this act, General Grant promptly resigned the place to Mr. Stanton.—*October 18.* Formal session taken of the new territory of Alaska, purchased of Russia.

*1867. The French evacuate Mexico.*

*1867. The Constitution of the North German Confederation adopted by the Prussian Chamber of Deputies.*

*1867. The Emperor Maximilian of Mexico executed at Querétaro.*

**1868.** *January 6.* **The President** was censured in the House of Representatives for the removal of General Sheridan, commander of the fifth military district.—*February*

*1868. England makes war on Abyssinia.*

21. Secretary Stanton was again removed, and General Lorenzo Thomas appointed in his place *ad interim*. This act was followed by a resolution of Congress declaring

1868. *Revolu-  
tion in Spain.  
Flight of Queen  
Isabella.*

that the President had no right to make any such removal; a declaration in accordance with the tenure of office bill, of March 1867. Mr. Stanton therefore

declined to vacate his office. — *March 25*. Resolutions impeaching the President for high crimes and misdemeanors were presented by the House to the Senate. — *March 23—May 26*. Impeachment trial of President Johnson, at the bar of the Senate, with the result of his acquittal by a vote of thirty-five to nineteen. — *June*. Official reception by the Government at Washington of the Chinese Embassy, headed by Anson Burlingame.

During all this time the quarrel between President and Congress continued unabated, bill after bill being passed over his veto.

*July 4*. **The President proclaimed amnesty** to all engaged in the late Rebellion, except those already indicted for treason or other felony. — *December 25*. The President proclaimed universal amnesty.

### XVIII. GRANT'S ADMINISTRATION.

ULYSSES S. GRANT, of Illinois, President: 1869-1877—

SCHUYLER COLFAX, of Indiana, Vice-President: 1869-1873.

HENRY WILSON, of Massachusetts, Vice-President: 1873—

**President Grant's administration**, now nearly through a second term, has been distinguished by the carrying forward of the work of reconstruction, the smoothing over of

1812-1870.

*Charles Dickens.*

1871. *Victor*

*Emanuel makes*

the scars of war, the nurture of friendly relations with other countries, and the general development of national in-

terests. Examined in detail, some of its more conspicuous features, so far, have been the enactment of an amendment to the Constitution, providing that "the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States, or by any State, on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude;" the satisfactory settlement of the Alabama Claims by arbitration with Great Britain, before a tribunal at Geneva; the final restoration to the Union of all the States lately in rebellion; some serious troubles at the South in connection with this work of restoration, and with the readjustment of society there to its new conditions; a considerable reduction of the national debt; the admission of Colorado to the Union — 38th State; the agitation of the question of San Domingo annexation; and the failure of the much wished for and long attempted civil service reform.

*Rome the capital of Italy. Temporal power of the Pope at an end.*

1870-1872.

*Franco-Prussian War. Overthrow of the French Empire. Paris ruled by the Commune. Final establishment of a Republic.*

1871. *The new German Confederation formally assumes the imperial name and dignity.*

**1870. Population** of the United States 38,500,000.





# APPENDIX.

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## THE STATES.

THE thirty-eight States are as follows: the original thirteen being named in the order in which they ratified the Constitution; the remaining twenty-five, in the order of their admission:—

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Delaware, 1787.        | 19. Indiana, 1816.       |
| 2. Pennsylvania, 1787.    | 20. Mississippi, 1817.   |
| 3. New Jersey, „          | 21. Illinois, 1818.      |
| 4. Georgia, 1788.         | 22. Alabama, 1819.       |
| 5. Connecticut, 1788.     | 23. Maine, 1820.         |
| 6. Massachusetts, 1788.   | 24. Missouri, 1821.      |
| 7. Maryland, „            | 25. Arkansas, 1836.      |
| 8. South Carolina, „      | 26. Michigan, 1837.      |
| 9. New Hampshire, „       | 27. Florida, 1845.       |
| 10. Virginia, „           | 28. Texas, „             |
| 11. New York, „           | 29. Iowa, 1846.          |
| 12. North Carolina, 1789. | 30. Wisconsin, 1848.     |
| 13. Rhode Island, 1790.   | 31. California, 1850.    |
| 14. Vermont, 1791.        | 32. Minnesota, 1858.     |
| 15. Kentucky, 1792.       | 33. Oregon, 1859.        |
| 16. Tennessee, 1796.      | 34. Kansas, 1861.        |
| 17. Ohio, 1802.           | 35. West Virginia, 1863. |
| 18. Louisiana, 1812.      | 36. Nevada, 1864.        |
|                           | 37. Nebraska, 1867.      |
|                           | 38. Colorado, 1875.      |

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## THE TERRITORIES.

ARRANGED IN THE ORDER OF THEIR ORGANIZATION.

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| 1. New Mexico, 1850.                    | 5. Arizona, 1863. |
| 2. Utah, „                              | 6. Idaho, „       |
| 3. Washington, 1853.                    | 7. Montana, 1864. |
| 4. Dakota, 1861.                        | 8. Wyoming, 1868. |
| 9. Indian Territory, not yet organized. |                   |
| 10. Alaska, „ „ „                       |                   |

## PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, of Virginia, 1789-1797.  
JOHN ADAMS, of Massachusetts, 1797-1801.  
THOMAS JEFFERSON, of Virginia, 1801-1809.  
JAMES MADISON, of Virginia, 1809-1817.  
JAMES MONROE, of Virginia, 1817-1825.  
JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, of Massachusetts, 1825-1829.  
ANDREW JACKSON, of Tennessee, 1829-1837.  
MARTIN VAN BUREN, of New York, 1837-1841.  
WILLIAM H. HARRISON, of Ohio, 1841 (one month).  
JOHN TYLER, of Virginia, 1841-1845.  
JAMES K. POLK, of Tennessee, 1845-1849.  
ZACHARY TAYLOR, of Louisiana, 1849-1850.  
MILLARD FILLMORE, of New York, 1850-1853.  
FRANKLIN PIERCE, of New Hampshire, 1853-1857.  
JAMES BUCHANAN, of Pennsylvania, 1857-1861.  
ABRAHAM LINCOLN, of Illinois, 1861-1865.  
ANDREW JOHNSON, of Tennessee, 1865-1869.  
ULYSSES S. GRANT, of Illinois, 1869-

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THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, ADOPTED  
BY CONGRESS JULY 4, 1776.

A DECLARATION BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED  
STATES OF AMERICA, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED.

WHEN, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; that, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that, whenever any form of government becomes de-

structive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it, and to institute a new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and, accordingly, all experience hath shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former systems of government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these States. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world:—

He has refused his assent to laws the most wholesome, and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his governors to pass laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation, till his assent should be obtained; and, when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of representation in the legislature; a right inestimable to them, and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the repository of their public records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved representative houses repeatedly for opposing, with manly firmness, his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused, for a long time after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the legislative powers, incapable of annihilation, have returned to the people at large, for their exercise; the State remaining, in the mean time, exposed to all the danger of invasions from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavored to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose, obstructing the laws for naturalization of foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migration hither, and raising the conditions of new appropriations of lands.

He has obstructed the administration of justice by refusing his assent to laws for establishing judiciary powers.

He has made judges dependent on his will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of new offices, and sent hither swarms of officers, to harass our people, and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, standing armies, without the consent of our legislature.

He has affected to render the military independent of, and superior to, the civil power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his assent to their acts of pretended legislation:—

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us;

For protecting them, by a mock trial, from punishment for any murders which they should commit on the inhabitants of these States;

For cutting off our trade with all parts of the world;

For imposing taxes on us without our consent;

For depriving us, in many cases, of the benefits of trial by jury;

For transporting us beyond seas to be tried for pretended offences;

For abolishing the free system of English laws in a neighboring province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its boundaries, so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies;

For taking away our charters, abolishing our most valuable laws, and altering, fundamentally, the powers of our governments;

For suspending our own legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated government here, by declaring us out of his protection, and waging war against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is at this time transporting large armies of foreign mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation, and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of cruelty and perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow-citizens, taken captive on the high seas, to bear arms against their country, to become the executioners of their friends and brethren, or to fall themselves by their hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavored to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers the merciless Indian savages, whose known rule of warfare is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes, and conditions.

In every stage of these oppressions, we have petitioned for redress

in the most humble terms; our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have we been wanting in attention to our British brethren. We have warned them, from time to time, of attempts made by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them, by the ties of our common kindred, to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They, too, have been deaf to the voice of justice and consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, enemies in war; in peace, friends.

We, therefore, the representatives of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in general congress assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name and by the authority of the good people of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, *Free and Independent States*; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved; and that, as *Free and Independent States*, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which *Independent States* may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of DIVINE PROVIDENCE, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.

JOHN HANCOCK.

NEW HAMPSHIRE. — Josiah Bartlett, William Whipple, Matthew Thornton.

MASSACHUSETTS BAY. — Samuel Adams, John Adams, Robert Treat Paine, Elbridge Gerry.

RHODE ISLAND, ETC. — Stephen Hopkins, William Ellery.

CONNECTICUT. — Roger Sherman, Samuel Huntington, William Williams, Oliver Wolcott.

NEW YORK. — William Floyd, Philip Livingston, Francis Lewis, Lewis Morris.

NEW JERSEY. — Richard Stockton, John Witherspoon, Francis Hopkinson, John Hart, Abraham Clark.

PENNSYLVANIA. — Robert Morris, Benjamin Rush, Benjamin

Franklin, John Morton, George Clymer, James Smith, George Taylor, James Wilson, George Ross.

DELAWARE. — Cæsar Rodney, George Read, Thomas M'Kean.

MARYLAND. — Samuel Chase, William Paca, Thomas Stone, Charles Carroll of Carrollton.

VIRGINIA. — George Wythe, Richard Henry Lee, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Harrison, Thomas Nelson, Jr., Francis Lightfoot Lee, Carter Braxton.

NORTH CAROLINA. — William Hooper, Joseph Hewes, John Penn.

SOUTH CAROLINA. — Edward Rutledge, Thomas Hayward, Jr., Thomas Lynch, Jr., Arthur Middleton.

GEORGIA. — Button Gwinnett, Lyman Hall, George Walton.

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